

Headquarters 4th Air Force  
Old Post Office Building  
Riverside, California

June 8, 1941

Dr. F. C. Allen  
University of Kansas  
Lawrence, Kansas

Dear Doc,

This letter has not been dispatched to you as soon as I had expected, but I have really been "on the go" since leaving Lawrence.

Probably John Bunn has written you concerning their number one prospect for the job at K.U. Both John and Esslinger believe that a man by the name of Bert Pike is well qualified and their best candidate for K.U. I do not know him personally. Esslinger believes that Voorhees is a good boy but that Pike is better. I talked to Voorhees about the situation and he is definitely interested if the salary is sufficient to warrant the move. Voorhees said that he would write directly to you. I believe that either of the two would fill the bill.

After a short session with Bunn and Esslinger at Stanford, I drove South, established myself temporarily here at home, and reported for duty at Riverside. The entire 4th Air Force Hdqts. has been but recently established and therefore is still in the throes of becoming organized. It will take some little time for me to become established and oriented in the new job, but I can see already that it is going to develop into a rather tremendous project. I will have no civilian assistants at any of the bases; rather, my job will be to organize and coordinate the programs thurout the District and to train the leaders for conducting the programs. It should be interesting, but very definitely there will be headaches and difficulties to overcome.

I want to take this opportunity to tell you again, Doc, that I thoroughly enjoyed working under you during the past two years. It was a rare opportunity that I would not have missed for anything, and the experience there has greatly enhanced my professional and personal training. No one knows what the future holds, but I certainly hope that I may be considered again as a candidate for a position at K.U. when and if this brawl is over. Ruth and I will always cherish many fond memories of our associations and life in Lawrence.

Best of luck in your quest of replacements in the Department, Doc. If there is anything I can do to aid you in your search, don't hesitate to call on me. Also if any questions arise concerning any phase of the work in the Department which I handled during the past two years, I shall be happy to supply any information I am able to (which is not contained in the files I left).

Please give my best regards to Mrs. Allen and the family.

*yours sincerely*  
Bert de Groot