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August 4, 1942.

Rev. Robert A. Hunt,
c/o C. C. Cummins,
Lebo, Kansas.

Dear Dr. Hunt:

I am very happy to receive your letter of July 31 and am answering the same at the first opportunity.

Answering your question in the best way that I can, I can only tell you what I know from what the boys have told me. When Maurice Cannady finished his course of training they asked the boys if they had any preference regarding their return to certain quarters. Maurice Cannady asked for the Fairfax Airport, and got it. And I notice that Paul Chrisman has been assigned back to Columbia. It may be that they are still asking the boys down at Norfolk to express their wishes.

I have used no influence of any sort with any boy in the service in having him returned to any particular place. That is very bad for the boy to have any outside forces endeavoring to influence the service in the disposition of the men. I know that the Army has frowned upon that thing very definitely, even in peace time, and I believe the best way would be to have it come from the other end of the line.

I remember when I went up with a group of boys to see Gene Tunney, and I had a fine visit with Tunney, these were Tunney's words: "Now, don't think you are going to be on the land in physical education. This is not a retreat from danger. You are apt to be pushing big shells in those guns and fighting along with the Navy boys at any place."

From the beginning they have placed a very broad interpretation on the word "service". They may be transferred to any field of endeavor at any time.

I certainly shall not say a word to Robert or any one else that you have written. I believe it would be a bad thing to make any move in that regard. You can count on this - that I would endeavor to do anything for Robert that I would do for my own son. We really never know how to advise the other fellow, but in all cases