

Missoula, Montana
March 8, 1943

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

Dear Dr. Allen:

I am writing you to ask if you would favor me with a letter of recommendation for a Commission in the Naval Reserve. I realize you must be swamped with similar requests from your many proteges of years past and present. But, I also realize the prestige a letter from such a national figure as you are, gives to one.

I'll give you a little of my background, so that you will remember who I am. The last time I saw you was in April, 1939--when my wife and I stopped in your office, and you gave us tickets to the Kansas Relays that week-end. I was picked by you in 1928, as Senior Manager of the Kansas Relays Committee, after serving on it in 1925, -26 and 27. The watch which was given me that year is still my most prized possession.

I was a member of the Athletic Board in 1927 and can well remember one meeting at which we offered Ad Lindsey--then going to Oklahoma as head football coach--an assistant coach job, in a noble effort to try and save him for K.U. A few years later you were able to get him to return as head coach. I was also a member of Schem, advertising manager of the Daily Kansan, Member of the Men's Student Council and Varsity Dance Manager in 1928.

Also, I might mention I was born and raised on a farm, five miles east of Lawrence, living there until I started to high school. We then moved to 700 Mississippi St., in Lawrence, where my mother still lives. I can well remember a few times when your oldest son, who later died, rode out on his bicycle--with another boy, to our farm. You would drive out and bring them back to town in the car.

Am enclosing a self Addressed envelope, since the 3 copies of the letter --each on letterhead and each signed--should be returned to me for enclosure with my final application. They should be addressed to
DIRECTOR OF NAVAL OFFICER PROCUREMENT
117 Marion St.
Seattle, Washington.

I am not making application for a commission in a last minute attempt to beat the draft, as I am in 3-A. I have worked for the Telephone Company ever since my graduation in 1928. My wife and three year old son are in full accord with my wish to help the war effort in any way the Navy might be able to use me.