Memo from John C. H. Lee, December 26, 1944. Security Classified Records, Record Group 220: Records of the President's Committee on Eqaulity of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services.

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HEADQUARTERS
COMMUNICATIONS ZONE
EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS

AG 322 x 353 XSGS

APO 887
26 December 1944

SUBJECT: Volunteers for Training and Assignment as Reinforcements.

TO: Commanding General, Southern Line of Communications.
Commanding General, United Kingdom Base.
Section Commanders, Communications Zone.

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U. S. GOVERNMENT

1. The Supreme Commander desires to destroy the enemy forces and end hostilities in this theater without delay. Every available weapon at our disposal must be brought to bear upon the enemy. To this end the Theater Commander has directed the Communications Zone Commander to make the greatest possible use of limited service men within service units and to survey our entire organization in an effort to produce able bodied men for the front lines. This process of selection has been going on for some time but it is entirely possible that many men themselves, desiring to volunteer for front line service, may be able to point out methods in which they can be replaced in their present jobs. Consequently, Commanders of all grades will receive voluntary applications for transfer to the Infantry and forward them to higher authority with recommendations for appropriate type of replacement. This opportunity to volunteer will be extended to all soldiers without regard to color or race, but preference will normally be given to individuals who have had some basic training in Infantry. Normally, also, transfers will be limited to the grade of Private and Private First Class unless a noncommissioned officer requests a reduction.

2. In the event that the number of suitable Negro volunteers exceeds the replacement needs of Negro combat units, these men will be suitable incorporated in other organizations so that their service and their fighting spirit may be efficiently utilized.

3. This letter may be read confidentially to the troops and made available in Orderly Rooms. Every assistance must be promptly given qualified men who volunteer for this service.

JOHN C H LEE
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding

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