

HEADQUARTERS III CORPS, G-3
APO 303

13 April 1945.

Col. S.L.A. Marshall
Deputy Theater Historian
Hq. Command, ETOUSA
APO 887

Dear Col. Marshall:

In building contacts and creating good will, field historians depend not only on their personal acquaintances but the good name of their organization. History is, due to our efforts, no longer a new and unheard-of endeavor; but to most army men its procedures are still esoteric. I think most of us are trying to make these procedures still simple and clear-cut, in order to aid the good name of our organization.

At this late stage of the game, a memorandum on the functions of historical officers, and the compilation of after-action reports is very helpful for clarification--even though it is late. But I should like to protest the issuance of a new memorandum on the same subject just after we have won the distribution of the first one down to company level.

Now it is water over the dam. Our AG, who has a sense of humor and has seen much FUBAR in the past, can laugh and call for a new distribution. I am sorry that I do not share his sense of humor. This business made me so mad last night that I couldn't get to sleep. The reaction to such a procedure does not help us.

Very sincerely,

KENNETH W. HECHLER
Capt., Inf.