

Copy

February 8, 1952

Commanding General
Second Army Headquarters
Fort George C. Meade, Maryland

Dear Sir:

More than a year ago, Murray State College made an application for an ROTC unit. I received a letter from Major General Edward F. Witsell stating that there had been sufficient ROTC units activated to take care of the demand but that our application was being recorded against contingency and should additional programs be activated, our application would remain directly in focus. On January 5, I wrote to the Department of the Army, again signifying the keen interest of Murray State College in an ROTC program.

Supplementing the original application and the letter of January 5, may I say that the Board of Regents, the faculty and students are unanimous in their desire to have an ROTC unit at Murray State College; and we pledge the Army our wholehearted cooperation in establishing and carrying out an ROTC program.

Although some institutions have an Air Force ROTC, a Navy ROTC, or one of the foregoing and an Army ROTC, we feel that it would be to the best interests of our institution and to the ROTC program to limit the program to one service, namely the Army.

Murray State College is willing and anxious to try out any new ideas in connection with the ROTC program which the Department of the Army may want carried out. We shall be happy to be guided by the suggestions of the Army. We are interested in an ROTC program on a permanent, long-time basis.

Our institution is state supported and coeducational, but it has a preponderance of men. In the fall of 1950, we had 1,439 students, 945 of whom were men. In the fall of 1951, we had 1,364 students, 834 of whom were men. Of the 834 male students, 284 were freshmen.

We are willing to require ROTC training of all physically qualified male students. The ROTC courses will be integrated in the over-all college program and credit toward graduation will be given for them.

We anticipate considerable growth in the college enrollment in the years immediately ahead because of the industrial development in the area. The industrial development is stimulated by the available power provided by the TVA generating plant at Kentucky Dam and nearby steam plants. Recent development and plans include the Atomic Energy plant, near Paducah, and four additional plants near Kentucky Dam. It is estimated that the four plants, exclusive of the Atomic Energy plant, will bring 20,000 additional people to the area within the next four years.

We have excellent instructional facilities at the college and excellent facilities for the ROTC program in the way of offices, classrooms, auditoriums, drill areas, etc. These facilities are ready for immediate occupancy and use by an ROTC unit.

If there is any further information needed, we shall be most happy to supply it.

Thanking you for your consideration of our application for an ROTC program, I am

Respectfully yours,

R. H. Woods
President

RHW:TB