

Chief, Administrative Staff, ORR

11 March 1954

THRU : Acting Chief, Geographic Research, ORR
Chief, D/GL/RR

Request for assignment of military billet for one officer
in the Map Library Division.

1. In the conduct of the map procurement operation which is directed by the Geographic Area in cooperation with the Department of State there have arisen numerous requirements for a more effective military liaison. The difficulties experienced in the European theater with the various Army authorities, which resulted in the termination of map procurement for the Army Map Service, so far as the Geographic Attache was concerned, could possibly have been averted if a military liaison officer had been on duty. After long negotiations this total procurement situation has now been clarified satisfactorily for the Army Map Service, but much valuable time was lost.

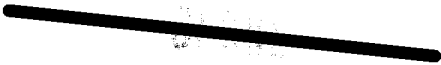
2. At the present time there is no Geographic Attache in the Far East. This situation requires the desk officer in the Geographic Area's procurement operation to do procurement from Washington in the best manner he can. This is not an easy or satisfactory operation.

3. The aid which a military liaison officer, experienced in map work in the Far East, could offer at this time would be most beneficial to the procurement program.

4. With a knowledge of Far East procurement work such an officer could assist in the overall procurement program from that area, develop a more effective liaison with the Army Map Service, and in the interests of all U.S. Government mapping agencies, conduct one or more periods of TDY in the Far East during his period of assignment to the Agency.

5. The type of coordination that this officer could effect with Far East military installations would be most helpful in the overall conduct of cartographic and geographic procurement.

6. At the present time several factors combine to produce the conditions under which a request is made herein for a military position to cover Far East procurement:



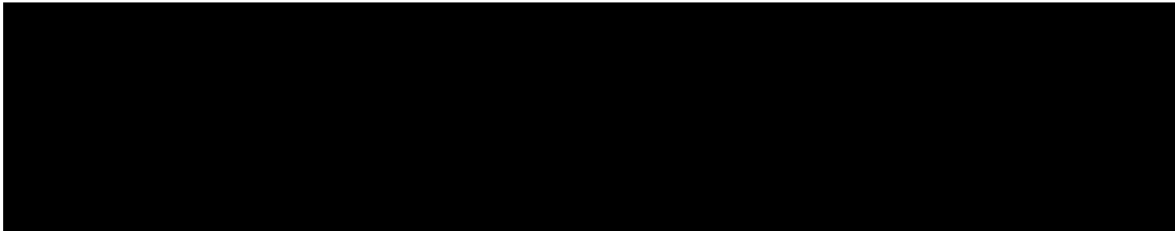
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a. The Army Map Service has been unsuccessful in establishing any kind of satisfactory procurement of foreign maps published in Far Eastern countries, even with existing military facilities in the region.

b. There is no Geographic Attache in the Far East.

c. No systematic method of procurement of maps and related materials exists for this important area. This is the only region adjacent to the Soviet Bloc in which there are no adequate means for procurement.

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7. The assignment of [redacted] to a military position in the Map Library of the Geographic Area is urgently requested. Under a condition of reduced Geographic Attache strength, weak procurement conditions in the Far East, and the continuing need for maps and related materials from that area, the assignment of an officer is most necessary to strengthen this operation.

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D/GL/RR:ALB:jmd

Distribution:

1 - St/A/RR

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