

Form F. R. 511

TO _____

FROM _____

REMARKS:

Copies of information given to Robert H. Hinckley by M. S. Eccles on July 21, 1944, for his consideration.

CHAIRMAN'S OFFICE

7/21/44

LT. COL. GRANT KEANE

Present Assignment: Liaison Officer, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.
Age between 40 and 45.

Antecedents:

Before going to the Army he was a member of the Atlas Corporation staff.

Qualifications:

It is said that when Floyd Odlum came to Washington for the Contract Distribution Service (Small Business), he tried to get Col. Keane released to assist him but the Army resisted this. Mr. Smead advises that his work at Chicago has been of a high quality and that everyone speaks favorably of him. I remember sitting next to him at the luncheon last year for all the newly appointed liaison officers and was impressed with his quiet but effective manner.

MAJOR HARVIE WILKINSON

Present Assignment: Assistant Liaison Officer, Federal Reserve
Bank of New York.
Age between 38 and 40.

Antecedents:

Wilkinson was for some years very active in the Bank Management Commission of the ABA. Before going into the Army he was very active in organizing the ABA arrangements for cooperating with the Armed Services, first under the Assignment of Claims procedure, and later under Regulation V.

Qualifications:

I attended a meeting at the Willard Hotel of the ABA Committee which Wilkinson was handling and he impressed me very favorably. Mr. Rounds advises that he thinks Wilkinson has unusual ability and personality. He shows a real grasp of credit principles and banking and Rounds added that if he were going to hire a man for the Federal Reserve Bank, he would prefer Wilkinson to McKinney.

I called Bob Fleming who said that he considered Wilkinson one of the brightest and most capable young bankers in the country. He said he had rare ability in organization work. He thought that his progress in the War Department was somewhat hampered by the fact that he did not get along too well with one of the "higher ups" in the Advance Payment and Loan Section. Fleming said that Wilkinson had a good deal more ability than the officer with whom he disagreed occasionally. On the whole, he thought Wilkinson would be an excellent selection for the position in question.

LT. COL. FRANK E. MCKINNEY

Present Assignment: Liaison Officer, Federal Reserve Bank of New York.
Age between 45 and 50.

Antecedents:

L. R. Rounds, Vice President at the New York Fed, says he understands McKinney got his first start as a tax collector in Indiana and under the law as it then stood profited handsomely out of the fines recovered on collection of delinquent taxes. A few years ago he put together several small banks in Indianapolis, forming the Fidelity Trust Company - total resources about \$10,000,000. This venture is said to have been quite profitable so that McKinney is now reasonably well fixed. He is Chairman of the Board and President of this bank, on leave of absence.

Qualifications:

Mr. Rounds further said that McKinney makes a favorable impression; that he has been both agreeable and able in his work. He says that McKinney shows tact and diplomacy and appears to have a good deal of the "political" approach in his work, adding that he was using this in a complimentary rather than in an uncomplimentary manner. When I told him that the position in question would include liaison work, he thought that this talent would be particularly valuable in such a position.

LT. COL. FRED TRASK

Present Assignment: Liaison Officer, Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City.
Age between 40 and 45.

Antecedents:

Col. Trask came to the Army from commercial banking but I have not yet been able to find out any details. This will be supplied.

Qualifications:

Mr. Smead, Administrator of the War Loans Committee, has met Col. Trask on several occasions and from his own impression, as well as from the reports of Mr. Koppang, First Vice President at Kansas City, believes Mr. Trask has outstanding ability and a very attractive personality. He says that he convinces one even at first meeting that he knows his job and would handle well any assignment given him.
