

WAR DEPARTMENT
ARMY SERVICE FORCES
HEADQUARTERS FIRST SERVICE COMMAND
BOSTON 15, MASSACHUSETTS

19 February 1944

SUBJECT: Reduction in ASTP

TO: Each Army Specialized Training Trainee

1. You were assigned to the Army Specialized Training Program because it was felt that the courses of instruction scheduled would materially increase your value to the military service. You have been working under high pressure to master as quickly as possible those essentials of college training of greatest importance to your development as a soldier.

2. The time has come for the majority of you to be assigned to other active duty.

3. To break the enemies' defenses and force their unconditional surrender, it is necessary to hit them with the full weight of America's manpower. Because of this imperative military necessity, most of you will soon be ordered to field service before the completion of your normal course.

4. The Army Specialized Training Program will be reduced prior to 1 April 1944 to 35,000 trainees which will include 5,000 pre-induction students and advanced medical, dental, and engineering groups, the USMA Preparatory Course and certain language groups.

5. Most of you released from the ASTP will be assigned to the Army Ground Forces for duty with divisions and other units. Your intelligence, training, and high qualities of leadership are expected to raise the combat efficiency of those units.

6. The thousands of ASTP trainees who have already been assigned to field service have set high standards for you to follow.

By order of the Secretary of WAR:

Thomas E. Troland

THOMAS E. TROLAND,
Brigadier General, U. S. A.
Commanding.

Notes donated by Robert Madson
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