

COTU Publishing
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August 11, 1997

Rev. Philip A. Smith, O.P.
President, Providence College
549 River Avenue
Providence, RI 02918-0001

Dear President Smith:

I am writing to ask for your help in trying to find some of the hundreds of young soldiers who attended Providence College in 1943-1944 as Army Specialized Training Program trainees.

I wish to interview them with respect to their memories of entering the ASTP, their training at Providence, their subsequent Army experiences, and their lives and careers following World War II.

I need this information in order to update and revise my book, *Scholars in Foxholes: The Story of the Army Specialized Training Program in World War II* (McFarland, Jefferson, NC, 1988). The book is now out of print, and I plan to re-issue it under my own imprint, COTU Publishing.

Specifically then, you can help me, if you will, by asking your university archivist or other appropriate official to see if any, or all, of the following might be available, and if selected material might be photocopied and mailed to me at a reasonable cost:

1. Rosters of ASTP students (I need only names, NOT grades or other personal details that would violate their privacy). I will be able to find a good number of them by matching their names and middle initials against those of my computerized USA phone directory. This is my first-priority.

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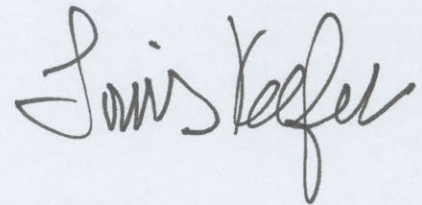
Office of the President
Providence College

2. Sample copies of ASTP campus publications (or the regular campus newspaper with ASTP features).

3. Excerpts about ASTP from yearbook or annual report accounts.

I would be most grateful for your personal assistance in arranging for the university's cooperation in my endeavor. I will hope to hear from you or from your designated official in the near future. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Louis Keefer". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Louis Keefer