

25 September 1969

Colonel Edgar J. Ingwire, (USA-Ret)

[REDACTED]

Dear Ed:

I am sorry that I did not see you on my last trip to Sill. As you surmised, it was a short stay and very rushed. I arrived at nine one night and left just after the graduation the next morning. Charlie Brown is certainly doing a wonderful job.

I was scheduled to go down for the Artillery review on 24-25 September but had to cancel out at the last minute. I had hoped to surprise you with a telephone call.

As for using me as a personal reference, I will be delighted to answer any request from Merrill Lynch in your behalf. As a matter of fact, I'm looking forward to a second career in the brokerage business when the Army gets tired of me. Your son-in-law is doing fine in the Operations Directorate under Bill Desobry. While the hours don't permit a full family life, the work is most interesting and important. I know that he is being challenged in his new job.

General Stilwell appreciated your regards and best wishes-- he is a great guy to work for.

Barbara joins me in sending you and yours best wishes for continued success and happiness.

Most sincerely,

RICHARD T. KNOWLES
Major General, US Army

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EDGAR J. INGMIRE
REGISTERED REPRESENTATIVE

Dear Dick

12 Sept 67

After the fact we read where you had been recently to Fort Sill. It would have been great to be able to get up there and see you, but I know how pressed that you are for time on such trips and doubt that you had any time to yourself in any event.

You may recall that when I submitted a Form 57 to the Civil Service commission before retiring that you gave me permission to cite you as a personal reference. I don't think that you were ever bothered by that as I never put in for a Civil Service job and the purpose of submitting a Form 57 was to determine what level of rating the Commission would give me. It came back, as a matter of interest as a GS 15/14. Perhaps I should have pressed to find such a position but really wasn't very enthusiastic about going that way.

After retirement we looked around for quite a while and finally settled in Wichita Falls where I started to work as shown above. I'm self employed, and that has a lot of advantages, but it also lacks any challenge except to get out and find clients and I'm not the slightest interested in such prospecting. All of which brings me to the object of this letter. An opportunity has come up to start with Merrill Lynch etc which is much more to my liking than my present manner of operating. I only had two days to get interviewed in a preliminary manner, perhaps screened is a better way of phrasing the process, and had to submit an immediate application. I again wrote you down as a reference, presuming on the consent you gave me two years ago for a different purpose. I would have liked to have contacted you first but there just wasn't time. I would appreciate it if you would respond if there should come an inquiry about me but if you feel that too much time has gone by since our last associations, please let me know and I'll send in another reference. My problem is mostly that I can't make the references too heavy with local people who have not known me in the past and have to presume on friends of the past who have both concurred in being cited and whose address I still have. My age is against my selection but my experience in mutual funds, which Merrill Lynch is soon to start handling may get me by. If I'm not selected you will not be bothered.

I read where Dick Stilwell is taking over DCS/OPS. Please give him my congratulations and best wishes. It is a big job and must be now. My son-in-law Major Bernard Herring was assigned there after Leavenworth. Marjorie writes that the kids see him just about as much as they did the year he was with the 1st Cav Div in Vietnam, and she doesn't see much more. She says its just like it was when she was a little girl and I was assigned to OPD. She knew that she had a Daddy but wondered where he was all the time. Of course that was during war. And she didn't see much more of me when in G-1. She didn't know it but that was war too but of a different kind. And know it would appear that you really are fighting a little of both kinds with innumerable levels of command and supervision to be satisfied.

My sincere thanks in advance for what I am confident will be a concurrence in my action if you can do it with a clear conscience.

*Our best regards
EJ*