

Rancho Palos Verdes, Ca. 90274
October 3, 1974

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr.
U. S. NAVY (RET.)

Falls Church, Virginia 22044

Dear Admiral Zumwalt,

I must begin by thanking you for the interest you have shown in my application as an officer candidate. For the past month I have been making bi-weekly visits to the Navy Recruiting District (LOSA) offices for testing, interviews and a physical. My test scores were all high enough to qualify me for a line commission and Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island, except for the mechanical section which was a border line score. The recruiting officers suggested that I apply for an aviation commission and attend AOCs in Pensacola, Florida, as my scores were more than sufficient in aviation required fields. The processing of my application seemed to be going along fine until last Thursday when my medical history, which states that I have hay fever, disqualified me from most every program the Navy has to offer.

After some checking I discovered that if I could prove my hay fever was mild, I could reapply, this time for OCS. That same afternoon I saw an allergy specialist, and my family doctor, to receive the necessary tests to verify that the hay fever I have is mild, seasonal, and lacks any severe reaction to specific plants, foods, or animals. I now plan to resubmit my application. However to apply for OCS, I will have to wait out a six month period to retake the mechanical test to raise my scores. My recruiting officer told me that this should not prove too difficult since my mechanical aptitude, without any previous study or training, was high enough to pass minimum requirements, and with a little study, should be more than sufficient to place within the guidelines established for a line commission. Furthermore, I was told that during my six month wait, I could request immediate consideration from the Candidate Selection Board in Washington, D. C. If I receive such a request, my application will be reviewed as soon as possible after my March 10, 1975 test date.

Since our meeting last August, I had been hoping this letter would have had something more definite to offer than a six month delay. I look forward to telling you of my final outcome next March, as well as to the possibility of ever meeting you again. My father lent me his recording of your talk, and I was fortunate to catch you on William Buckley's Firing Line within days of your visit to California. While listening to these I have devised hundreds of questions I would have to ask were I ever lucky enough to find myself driving the recently retired Commander of Naval Operations through Los Angeles again.

Once again, thank you for the time you have given me.

Sincerely,

William M. Murray
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