

W. A. G. 1914

8/0 101 Eden Terrace,
Auckland,
New Zealand.

March 26th, 1945.

Madam,

I've read that you are keenly interested in New Zealand and its people. So I'm writing to you in the hope that you'll be kind enough to answer this particular

New Zealander one question. However, it requires some leading up to. Back in '42-'43, I did a year's service in Fiji, in the N.Z. Army. While there I made some excellent coppers among some N.S. Navy boys. So when I was discharged back here in New Zealand, still sound in wind and limb, I decided to join up with those boys, and get back into what promised to be a really juicy scrap before it was through. But no ice. I'm told it couldn't

be done, as I wasn't an American
citizen, and aliens could only be enlisted
in the U. S. Forces on the mainland
of the United States. Since it takes
5 years to become a U. S. citizen,
and travel overseas ^{in wartime} is almost impossible,
except for brass hats, executives, etc. etc.,
that put the lid on properly. Which
brings me to my question I'd like
you to answer, if you would. Why
is it, that, if I, or any other alien
were within the 3-mile limit of the
U. S. mainland, said alien could, all
other considerations being equal, be
acceptable to, and join, the Marines,
Navy, or any other branch of the U. S.
Forces, yet if we were 3 1/2 miles out,
we couldn't get in in a thousand
years? America needs men; why keep the
lid on them like this? Respectfully puzzled,
Yours etc.,
Lloyd J. Wyder.