

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TWENTY OF MUSEUM OF MODERN ART STAFF NOW IN ARMED SERVICES

John E. Abbott, Executive Vice-President of the Museum of Modern Art, announces that the Museum has received information that Technical Sergeant Paul Magriel, one of the twenty members of the Museum's staff now in the Armed Forces, has been officially commended by Colonel Robert C. M. Goolrick, Army Air Corps, Commanding Officer of Keesler Field, Mississippi, for "superior efficiency in organizing and operating the art section of Keesler Field." The complete commendation is as follows:

"Technical Sergeant Paul Magriel, AAF, BTC, is hereby commended for superior efficiency in organizing and operating the art section of Keesler Field and for his general superior efficiency in organizing many works of an architectural or artistic nature at this station. It is entirely due to the efforts of Sergeant Magriel that the art section of this station has proved such a splendid success."

In announcing the information received by the Museum, Mr. Abbott said:

"It is particularly gratifying to know that a former staff member of the Museum has been commended for service in an Army camp that is such a practical and specific illustration of the use of art in war. From the day the United States entered the war both the Museum and its individual staff members and trustees have made every effort to do their part in it.

"As an institution we have held exhibitions on camouflage, wartime housing, Britain and China at war, and on our own resources and preparations for war. We have also held competitions and exhibitions of hemisphere solidarity and war posters. We have shown series of film programs on civilian defense, victory gardening, and other war subjects. We established an Armed Services Program which not only heads up many of our wartime activities but works directly with the Army in supplying art materials for the Special Service Branch's Soldier Art Program and Interior Design Group, now functioning in more than 50 of the larger camps and air bases. The Program has also recommended many artists for specialized tasks in the armed forces, and has worked actively with Red Cross in supplying craftsmen as instructors in the crafts among patients in military hospitals. The Program has recently held two large exhibitions, Arts in Therapy illustrating the place of the arts and crafts in therapeutic work among wounded and disabled service men, and YANK Illustrates the War, an exhibition of sketches and photographs published in the Army's weekly, YANK.

"In addition to these general activities at the Museum, individual members of the staff give a great deal of time to advising, working with and carrying out projects for various government agencies and officials. We estimate that the Museum staff devotes 32% of its time to these wartime services. Beyond all this, twenty members of our staff have joined the Armed Services."

Members of the staff of the Museum and its Board of Trustees who have joined the Armed Forces are:

Trustees

John Hay Whitney, President
David H. McAlpin
Edward M. M. Warburg

Staff

Carlos Dyer, Technical Assistant, Department of Exhibitions
Stanley Ellis, Guard
Norman Gendreau, Electrician
Richard Griffith, Assistant in Film Library
Holger Hagen, Manager, Department of Publications
John Hennessy, Elevator Operator
Nathan Johnson, Guard
- Edgar Kaufmann, Jr., Chairman of Committee on Industrial Design
James Kilpatrick, Special Sixth Floor Guard
Lincoln Kirstein, Consultant on Latin American art
Paul Magriel, Librarian of the Dance Archives
Beaumont Newhall, Curator of Photography
Eliot Noyes, Director of Department of Industrial Design
Allen Pates - Patrick O'Mahoney, Elevator Operator
Arthur Rosenheimer, Library Assistant
Harald Tonnessen, Technical Assistant
William Allen Williams, Projectionist

News has just been received that an exhibition of soldier art from Keesler Field arranged by Sergeant Magriel is now on view at the Arts and Crafts Club in New Orleans.

NOTE: In the envelope with this release we are sending you a small catalog showing the prize winners in our United Hemisphere Poster Competition, published in English, Portuguese and Spanish for distribution throughout the American Republics.