

18 February 2015

Joseph C. Cantergiani
Colonel, USAF (Ret.)
Chairman, AFIO Scholarship Committee

Dear Sir, and all others concerned:

My name is Brandon J. Martinez. I am a Presidential Scholar in my second year of study here at the University of New Mexico, and a member of the National Security Study Program. I hope to someday work in the Intelligence field in defense of the United States.

I am a double-major, and will earn a degree in Linguistics and Foreign Languages upon graduation, with my cumulative GPA currently sitting at 4.06. For my Language degree, I am currently studying both Spanish and Mandarin Chinese, and have the option to study a third language. If I am able to study abroad, I will learn the language of the country where I am studying (I have narrowed my choices to Norway, Sweden, or Denmark); if not, I will likely study either German or Arabic here at UNM. I am also considering going to graduate school to earn a Master's of Business Administration degree through UNM's 3/2 program.

In terms of practical preparations, I am already a keen follower of both domestic and international politics, religion, language, and history. I exercise regularly, and train in various martial arts, including Shotokan Karate, Judo, and Commando Krav Maga. I am also fairly well traveled, having been to many parts of the US, along with Mexico and Brazil; I maintain many contacts throughout Latin America, using Spanish and my limited knowledge of Brazilian Portuguese. Along with my studies, I recently enlisted in the New Mexico Army National Guard. My Military Occupation Specialty is 31B, Military Police, and this coming summer I will leave for Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, to attend Basic Combat Training.

My current preference for becoming an Intelligence Officer lies with the US Army: after finishing my studies at UNM, I wish to transfer from the National Guard to active-duty Army, and attend Officer Candidate School, hopefully being assigned to the Intelligence field. I have considered other options, with my preference being working for either the CIA, FBI, or DEA. If I decide not to transfer to active duty, I will remain in the National Guard and apply to work with one of these other agencies; if I do transfer to active duty, I will likely retire from the Army and then apply to work with these agencies, or perhaps with a Private Military Contracting company as an Analyst of some sort. In any case, I feel my preparations have been sufficient thus far, and will prepare me for any position in any agency that I decide to work with. In the end, so long as I am serving my country, I will be content.

Feel free to contact me at my email, bjmartinez2695@unm.edu. You can also reach me by phone, at (505)290-3226. Please contact me with any questions, comments, or concerns.

Very Respectfully,

Brandon J. Martinez
PVT/E-2, US Army National Guard