

We have not initiated any special literacy-type training effort, because at the levels we have established, these men in fact are, with very little exception, basically literate. They have enough to pass basic military training and as we move on to qualify for many of the more basic military occupations. We have not gone below that level.

Chairman PROXMIRE. In giving the Department's position on the opposition to, as you put it, a completely voluntary system, you talked about the risks involved. Why is there any risk involved, especially if you follow the prescription which I doubt that Mr. Oi would contest against, leaving the draft law on the books and giving it a chance the way Mr. Schelling proposes, having a very big increase in pay, to \$325 or more, and seeing if this works.

If it works, you have lost nothing because you have all the advantages we have discussed of a voluntary army. If it doesn't work, certainly you have better morale, better equity—you have all these other advantages.

Mr. WOOL. From a technical standpoint, if to paraphrase, you are saying retain all the existing authorities to induct people, if and when needed that we now have, and in addition, if the Congress chooses to enact a law which raises military pay, we will have an opportunity to observe what effects this has, from a technical standpoint there is no risk other than the costs involved in a permanent mortgage to a higher pay level and all its other concomitants. This is something which is clearly a policy and fiscal decision.

Since you are not taking away any authorities but adding an incentive, there isn't any risk. If you are taking away some authorities, there is a risk, and it is a matter of defining terms here.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Wouldn't you agree that this 9-percent figure that you said for whom pay is the reason that they didn't come into the armed services? This 9-percent figure depends very greatly on what kind of service potential enlistees might anticipate?

Obviously, at a time when we have heavy casualties in Vietnam or when the prospect of overseas service is great, a hardship service, the pay would be less important than it would be under peacetime conditions.

Mr. WOOL. I agree completely. Of course, that figure reflected the feeling of young men as to what is important in choosing a career in peacetime.

Chairman PROXMIRE. Isn't it true in asking about service to our country, you wouldn't expect people to say that pay is first. You wouldn't expect an answer like that. Most people would say, according to our values, well, I serve because it offers a challenge and it offers an opportunity to serve my country, and so forth. The pay may be very important to them, but they don't think it is quite right to say so, especially to a stranger who comes up and asks them questions on it.

Mr. WOOL. I feel that all these survey results on attitudes and what you would do if something happened have to be taken with a grain of salt. I think that all the things you have said are true.

I think that is very true, as Dr. Schelling said a moment ago, that the image of service life, the conditions of the services as they exist at given times, and all the practical alternatives which men have available or may have available in the future are all part of this very complicated picture.