

Mrs. GREEN. How do you define "graduate"?

Mr. WHITAKER. One who completes the vocational training in the vocation of his choice. He receives a certificate just as does a graduate of a high school or elsewhere.

Mrs. GREEN. That training period is how long?

Mr. WHITAKER. On the average, 8.8 months, just under 9 months.

Mrs. GREEN. On the average?

Mr. WHITAKER. Yes, ma'am.

Mrs. GREEN. And it would go from what to what? What are the extremes?

Mr. WHITAKER. Some do it as rapidly as 6 months and some take it a year and a half.

Mrs. GREEN. Do you consider a boy who goes into the military a graduate?

Mr. WHITAKER. I am not sure I understand your question completely. A graduate can go into the military if that is what he likes; yes.

Mrs. GREEN. But if he has not completed the course and goes into the military, do you consider him a graduate?

Mr. WHITAKER. No; I would not.

Mrs. GREEN. That is not included in this?

Mr. WHITAKER. No.

Mrs. GREEN. "Graduate" is pretty loosely defined by OEO.

Mr. WHITAKER. The graduates are certificate-bearing graduates from Breckinridge only.

Mr. QUIE. You don't use the same definition of graduate that OEO uses.

Mr. WHITAKER. I assume, from the way the questions are being asked, apparently I am not. I apologize if I am not.

Mr. QUIE. It sounds like a better definition than OEO uses. I wish they would use that one, too.

Have you tried to develop a placement program as a part of your contract with OEO so that you can follow through rather than depending on them? You say this is a primary responsibility of theirs. Have you attempted to assume this?

Mr. WHITAKER. We feel placement is important, whether it be in military, in a continuing school, or in an earning job. Even though it is not spelled out as such as a definite key responsibility in the contract, we have worked very diligently in this area; yes, sir.

Mr. QUIE. Is there any possibility of securing in the future more of the responsibility for placement or have they turned you down?

Mr. WHITAKER. No; they have not turned us down. I want to be just as frank with you as you are with me, sir. If the contract were to require us to place every graduate, this would probably be an impossible thing to accept because we don't know what the economic future of the country is going to be and what the situation will be with each graduate when he comes through, but as a practical matter we feel we are judged by you and others on how well placed they are and we try to do that job.

Mr. QUIE. Regarding the 50 you have an agreement to take, is this with Graflex or is this with General Precision?

Mr. WHITAKER. General Precision is targeting for 50. We have not agreed to take 50, but that is our target.