

Now, I know something about the educational world, and you have to make some plans ahead. There is no question about that. But I did defend in my prepared statement the taking of the people at present, because it has been testified here by others this morning that our age is about 20 and 4 or 5 months.

If it stays anywhere near there, there is not the need.

I am not convinced we will be confronted, first of all, with the loss of occupational deferments, as has been indicated, although I can be wrong.

Now, this is a question about these graduate students, but whether or not there are some other factors that will enter into it, I don't know.

Mr. AYRES. General Hershey, I apologize for running back and forth to the telephone, but this is a Selective Service case I have been working on.

Perhaps you can answer my question, although it does not have a direct bearing on the reason we are here.

A young man in Akron, Ohio, dropped out of college in his junior year because, perhaps, he was not cut out to carry college work, although he was doing all right.

General HERSHEY. When did he drop out? This year, or last year, Mr. Ayres?

Mr. AYRES. He dropped out last December.

General HERSHEY. That is 1967?

Mr. AYRES. Right.

He enlisted, partially due to my suggestion and that of a nice, effective Air Force recruiter we have in Akron, in the Air Force. He passed his examinations, and is all set to go.

They told him in January that they would love to have him right now, but their quota was filled until May.

This morning he got his induction notice to go in on March 20.

Where does he go from there?

General HERSHEY. He will come to me. That is about where the thing lies.

Was it the Regular Air Force, or one of the Reserves?

Mr. AYRES. The Regular Air Force.

General HERSHEY. The reason I ask that is I have been told by the Department of Defense not to postpone anyone to get in the Reserve areas.

Mr. AYRES. He is ready to go right now.

General HERSHEY. Yes, except the fellows who will enlist him will be ready in May.

Mr. AYRES. Maybe we have too many recruiters, maybe they are doing too good a job.

General HERSHEY. If anybody wants to enlist, for a lot of reasons we ought to let him do it.

In the first place, we will probably enlist him for 3 or 4 years, instead of for 2.

One of the things we are up against is whether or not they will take him in May.

Mr. AYRES. They have promised they would take him in May.

General HERSHEY. I know. They promised to take him in December, too.