

him. It is going to take some sort of thing we call understanding or rules.

Whether or not we can figure out something, I don't want to say, but I will certainly be there trying to do my share in trying to arrive at something that is sensible and fair and is compassionate to the extent we can be for the average student.

Now, there are a lot of rights the students does not have, but he ought to have a little more than his rights.

Mr. STEIGER. But it can be done administratively, or would it take an act of the Congress?

General HERSHEY. Of course, it is just a question of whether the Director of Selective Service can face up to quite a lot of other committees, if he was postponing people who were in school 1 day, and they already had an order for induction.

Somewhere we have to draw some sort of line on who we are going to defend. We cannot defend everybody, I am sure, because these are compromises.

If we get somewhere, it will be because there is good will on both sides, and that we will set some sort of practical thing, and then we will try to operate it.

But I invite postponing power. That is the only thing I have. It certainly would be ridiculous for me to postpone somebody for 4 years.

As to what we can do, I don't know, because I don't know all the problems, I don't know all of the suggestions that they are going to make, but I am going to have a meeting next Monday.

Mr. STEIGER. Madam Chairman, I do want to make sure that I, for one, take this opportunity to thank General Hershey for the one change which has been made in terms of deferring junior college students and vocational school students. I think it was an appropriate change. It was made consistent with the law, and consistent with the intent of the Congress, so that one thing has been cleared up.

Let me ask just one further question, if I may.

In the New York Times story on draft deferments they quoted what they called White House sources, saying President Johnson had decided to reject recommendations for a proportionate selection process by age groups, because it would have been unfair to draft registrants, and administratively unworkable for the Nation's 4,000 local boards.

I would take from your comment this morning, General Hershey, that you would not entirely agree that this is impossible, that you do in fact find it feasible and administratively workable to make such a change.

General HERSHEY. I think it is going to be, I think I used the word "bedlam."

The particular thing you referred to is a rather sensitive point with me, because I worry sometimes about what a boy doesn't hear, that calls me late at night at home, when this conference took place, and the next thing is I know he may not know just what I said, and after he writes a pretty good article, sometimes that gets rewritten, and when the head writer gets at it, you have really had it. That is what went on in this case.

I want to be clear I am not here recommending that we are doing these things. On the other hand, I am not going to tamper with what-