

to have any special classification for students, at this level of draft call, at least.

But not being able to do that within the existing legislation, it seems to me that broadening the pool to put together the graduate students, the recent college graduates, and the 19-year-olds not in college is the fairest thing to do.

Mr. REID. Thank you.

General Hershey, taking that formulation, is my understanding correct that if the Secretary of Defense recommended such pooling by Executive order of the President, action could be taken almost immediately along that formulation, without any reference to the Congress?

General HERSHEY. I don't think we have any reference to Congress. There is some administrative thing.

The physical examination will have to be turned very rapidly in another direction.

I don't know how quickly we are talking about. Personally I don't believe we are going to have any trouble before midsummer.

In the first place, I don't see the individual being pulled off the occupational deferments. I may be wrong, because in the first place Dr. Trytten was my adviser for many, many years, and I don't want to blame him for what I am going to do now, but when he says we have a danger, I hear it, but I don't happen to quite join him, so therefore I think our problem is going to be midsummer or later, because that is the time that we start this processing, and it is going to take 90 days if we have not already got these people moved along up to physical examination. It is a rather long process.

Therefore I do think there is time, before this thing will be critical, if somebody in the Department of Defense decided they are going to go to either one or two or three different systems. You don't have to go to 19-year-olds. I don't like spattering them all over five or six different age groups.

If you do it, then you will still have each fellow dropping back in the age group from which he comes, and you will get some scatterment on that.

Mr. REID. Dr. Miller, could you comment a little bit on the urgency of this question?

Mr. MILLER. I do think it is a little more urgent, if one cares about the impact on the students and the educational institutions.

One already sensed last fall the withdrawal of a small number of students who graduated from school, those who had planned to go on, who did not matriculate. The number was small but noticeable in most of the graduate schools where I contacted the deans, because of the feeling, "Well, we are being allowed to have 1 year in graduate school. Let us not bother to start."

Now, if the situation remains uncertain, as it does at the present time, and we do not face the problem of clarifying this matter until the summer, I think we will have a fair number of graduate students who say, "Fine, under the present rules as I interpret them, I am one of the older people who will be pulled out, probably. I don't know whether it will be October or December or February. Why bother to start graduate education? Let us take 3 or 4 months, get a job somewhere, bum around the world, do something."