

This program was established under the provisions of Section 261 of the Armed Forces Reserve Act of 1952, as amended, subsequently codified by section 1 of Public Law 85-861 in section 511(b) of Title 10 of the U.S. Code. It is the policy of the Department of Defense that enlistees under this program shall enter into active duty with a minimum practicable delay. Such delay shall not exceed 120 days except as follows:

a. Individuals enlisting for positions requiring security clearance for access to or work with classified military information or equipment may be delayed to the extent necessary to accomplish the required clearances.

b. Individuals with special qualifications enlisted to fill positions requiring highly specialized skills, for which appropriate formal training courses are offered only infrequently, may be delayed to the extent necessary to ensure that the enlistee pursues the proper course commensurate with his qualifications and the requirements of the position for which enlisted.

Enlistees under this program are classified 1-D by Selective Service, under the provision of paragraph 1622.13 of the Selective Service Regulations. Selective Service is notified by the Marine Corps on the date an enlistee commences active duty or at any date he fails to comply with the agreement. The local draft board, having been notified by the Marine Corps that a registrant has enlisted under this program, will notify the State Director, Selective Service, in any case in which active duty was not reported to have commenced within the prescribed 120 days.

I would defer to Selective Service any specific questions relative to deferment or classification under this program.

I trust that the foregoing information satisfactorily replies to your inquiry.

Sincerely,

F. J. FRAZER.

Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps, Assistant Director of Personnel.

Mr. Speaker, I include the letters to which I have referred from General Hershey and Secretary Morris at this point:

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM,
Washington, D.C., August 30, 1967.

HON. JACKSON E. BETTS,
House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. BETTS: I share your concern expressed in your letter of August 2, 1967, with the problem of providing a continuous flow of trained individuals into our society, and, at the same time, insuring so far as possible that the privilege and duty of military service be distributed generally.

This is the essence of the problem involved in formulating a student deferment program, for the ages at which military service is performed are the same as the ages during which most young men pursue their studies.

Legislation recently enacted by the Congress and the policies put into effect by the President in recent selective service regulations, for the present at least, appear to me to be a good solution to this problem which is one that is constantly under study.

Fields of graduate study where deferment is in the national interest will be identified upon recommendations by the National Security Council.

I anticipate that the recommendation of the National Security Council and the fields of study specified for possible deferment will take into account not only military needs but the needs of the civilian economy. I anticipate also that critical areas of study will be changed from time to time as changing needs dictate.

The I-D deferment is, in effect, a delayed service program. But it is designed solely to meet the needs of the military services in terms of numbers of officers, reservists, and national guardsmen. It is not designed to meet requirements of the military forces for certain skills such as are acquired through graduate study.

Such a program for graduate students generally would result in all of them entering service when some of them might be far better utilized in the national interest in a civilian capacity.

Limitation of graduate school deferments may delay graduate study for some students. Studies of military manpower procurement by a commission appointed by the President, by a civilian panel named by the Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives, and by the Congress which