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Bulletin of information for persons registered.

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DIRECTOR OF SELECTIVE SERVICE

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FORM 5
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BULLETIN OF INFORMATION
FOR
PERSONS REGISTERED

1940



BULLETIN OF INFORMATION FOR PERSONS REGISTERED

You have registered for selective service and training in the interests of national defense. Under the law it is now your duty to keep yourself informed as to any action concerning you which your local board may take. This booklet is given you to help you in obtaining this information and in observing the law. *Keep this booklet—Read it carefully.*

REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES

When you registered you were given a small card called a registration certificate. This certificate shows that you did register. *It is important that you keep your registration certificate with you at all times.* Do not lose it. But if it is lost or stolen go at once to your local board, and they will give you another certificate.

LOCAL BOARD

Your local board is set up to select the men in your community who are to be trained for national defense. The members of your board are civilians, citizens of the United States, and live in your county. Your local board must decide which men go for training. Rules and regulations have been made to be followed by your local board. These rules and regulations are written to make sure that you and every other registrant will get fair treatment.

If you do not know where to find your local board office, then ask your postmaster, your bank, or your newspaper. In large cities there will be more than one local board. Find out which local board has your card and where its office is. Someone at the post office, the city clerk's office, or any bank, or newspaper office can tell you where to find your local board.

You are responsible for keeping in touch with your local board. Watch for notices at your local board office. Tell your local board any time you change your address. Tell your local board before you leave your county for an extended absence.

VOLUNTEERING

You may enlist through the regular recruiting stations in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps in the same way that you could before you registered. If you do enlist, you must notify your local board at once.

Or you may go to your local board and volunteer for military training and service. You may wish to do this so that you may finish your training as soon as possible. If you want to do this, go to your local board and tell them you want to volunteer for training now. If you volunteer and are accepted you will get the same training that you would if you had waited to be selected by the local board.

SERIAL NUMBERS

Shortly after registration your registration card will be given a serial number by your local board. You can find out what your serial number is by looking at the list which will be posted at the offices of your local board. Read the next paragraph about your serial number in the national lottery.

(1)

ORDER NUMBERS

After your card has received its serial number, numbers will be drawn by chance in a national lottery in Washington, D. C. The order in which these serial numbers are drawn will determine your order number. Your order number will determine the order in which, in your local board area, you may be called for training and service unless you are deferred.

QUESTIONNAIRES

After the order numbers have been assigned, your local board will mail you a questionnaire when your turn comes. The questionnaire is a printed list of questions which you must answer. Your answers will be used by your local board in deciding whether you are to be called for military training and service. Your questionnaire must be returned to your local board within 5 days from the day of mailing by the local board.

There is one way you can be sure about the time your questionnaire is due. Your local board will post outside its office a notice of the order numbers of the men to whom questionnaires have been mailed. Watch for this notice. If your order number is on this notice and you do not receive your questionnaire in the mail at once, go to your local board, get another questionnaire, answer the questions, and return it at once.

ADVISORY BOARDS FOR REGISTRANTS

Somewhere near you there is at least one Advisory Board for Registrants. This board is made up of persons who are willing and glad to help you fill out your questionnaire, without charge. Ask your local board where you can find the nearest Advisory Board for Registrants. Go to this Advisory Board and get its help. Do not pay any money to anyone for helping you to fill out your questionnaire. This questionnaire is the most important information which your local board needs to decide whether or not you are to be called for training and service. Your answers to the questionnaire must be correct and must be in proper form. The Advisory Board will help you to do this the right way. If you wish to make out your questionnaire without help, then read carefully all of the instructions.

GOVERNMENT APPEAL AGENTS

In order to protect your interest as well as the interest of the Government, there is a Government appeal agent for your local board.

OATHS

The law requires you to swear (or affirm) to the truth of your answers. Do not pay any money to anyone for taking your oath or affirmation. Any one of the following persons can take your oath; find one who will do it free of charge:

- Any member of your local board.
- The chief clerk of your local board.
- Any member of the Advisory Board for Registrants.
- Any postmaster.
- Any Federal, State, or municipal officer authorized to administer oaths.
- A notary public.

CLASSIFICATION AND SELECTION

The law and the rules of the Selective Service System provide for deferment of your training and service as long as this deferment serves the Nation's best

interest. Your questionnaire has questions and space for the information needed by your local board. You should attach to your questionnaire any papers necessary to prove the truth of your answers. Any written statements you may submit must be in the form of sworn affidavits. You may answer all questions freely because your answers as to your dependents, your income, and your physical condition are strictly confidential. Give your local board full and complete information in answering your questionnaire. Your local board will study your questionnaire and will get from you or others any additional information it needs about you. When it has this information you will be placed in one of four general classes:

Class I—Those persons available for training and service in the land or naval forces.

Class II—Those persons deferred because the public interest is best served by their staying at their usual work.

Class III—Those persons deferred because others are dependent upon them for support.

Class IV—Those persons deferred from service either by the law itself, or for physical disability, or other reasons.

Your local board will mail you a notice of your preliminary classification. It will also keep in its office a record of the classification given you.

Watch for your classification at the office of your local board.

CLASS II DEFERMENTS

You will be put in Class II if your employment in industry, agriculture, or other occupations or employment, or your activity in other endeavors, is found by the local board to be necessary to the maintenance of the National health, safety, or interest. No such deferment will be made except on the basis of the status of the individual himself, and no such deferment will be made of individuals by occupational groups or of groups of individuals in any plant or institution.

CLASS III DEFERMENTS

You will be put in Class III if your local board decides that your status with respect to persons dependent on you for support renders your deferment advisable. Dependents are defined in the law to include only those who are in fact dependent for support in a reasonable manner on income earned by you from your business, occupation, or employment.

CLASS IV DEFERMENTS

Class IV will contain men whose deferment is prescribed by law or who for other reasons are not considered available for selection.

DEFERMENTS ARE TEMPORARY

All classifications can be changed by your local board. Whenever your grounds for deferment change, you must tell your local board. For instance, if a person dependent upon you for support should die, marry, or become self-supporting, tell your local board. If you lose your job or change your work, tell your local board. Your local board will mail you notice of any change of your classification, but you must keep yourself informed about your classification. Keep in touch with your local board office and learn from your local board any changes in your classification.

CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS

The law relieves any person of combatant training and service who, by reason of religious training and belief, is in good faith conscientiously opposed to participation in war in any form. However, the law does not relieve the conscientious objector from service, which will be either noncombatant service or else work of national importance under civilian direction. Your local board can give you full information on this question.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS

Only persons put in Class I will be given physical examinations. Your local board will mail you a notice to report for physical examination. After your physical examination your local board will decide if you are physically fit for military training and service. If you are physically fit, you will remain in Class I; if you are not physically fit, you will be put in Class IV and will be deferred until further notice.

APPEALS

If you are not satisfied with your preliminary classification one or more members of your local board will be available to discuss the matter with you. If you then desire to appeal from your classification, your appeal must be filed within five days from the date your local board writes in its Classification Records the class in which you are placed. You do not need to hire any person to appear for you. To make an appeal, go to your local board, tell it you wish to appeal, and sign your name on the space printed on the questionnaire. When you do this, your local board will send to the board of appeal all papers and evidence needed for the appeal.

You cannot go in person to the board of appeal, nor can you have any person appear there for you. You cannot send any new papers or evidence to the board of appeal. You must give your local board all papers and evidence about yourself. Do not pay any money or any fee to anyone for your appeal. When a decision has been made by the board of appeal, you will be notified by your local board.

CALLS FOR TRAINING AND SERVICE

From time to time your local board will get a call for a certain number of men from your county, and those in Class I will enter upon training and service according to their order numbers. If you are called for training and service, your local board will mail you a notice of the time and place you are to report for duty. Failure to observe this notice would subject you to the penalties provided by law.

If you are in Class I, keep closely in touch with your local board to learn when you are to be called. Your local board will tell you what clothing to bring and furnish transportation and meals while you are traveling. Your local board will take care of everything necessary to get you to the induction station.

NOTICES

Your local board will post outside its office, notices which affect you. The following lists will be outside the local board offices:

- (1) List of serial numbers given to registrants.
- (2) List of order numbers given to registrants.
- (3) Notice of mailing questionnaires to registrants.

Keep yourself informed by looking for these notices at your local board office.

Your local board will keep in its office a classification record showing the date any other notices were mailed to you. These dates are important. Learn them from your local board by calling at its office for information. The notices which will be mailed to you are these:

- (1) Notice of classification.
- (2) Notice to appear for physical examination.
- (3) Notice of local board's decision as to physical qualifications.
- (4) Order to report for induction.

A record will be kept in the local board office of the date each of these notices was mailed to you.

As a part of your duty to defend the Nation, it is your duty to keep yourself in touch with your local board and to know what the local board has done about you. The classification record at the local board office is always open for your inspection. Therefore, failure to receive notices and orders mailed to you by your local board will not excuse you for failure to comply with them.

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

Report to your local board any change of address. Report to your local board before leaving your county on an extended trip. You must obtain permission from the local board before leaving the United States. If you are away from home, your local board might take some action affecting you, and you would not know of this action unless your local board has your address at all times.

You must report to your local board any change in your condition which might affect your classification. This means that any change in your dependents, your occupation, your citizenship, or a substantial change in your physical condition must be reported to your local board.

For information, write only to your local board, your advisory board for registrants, and the government appeal agent assigned to your local board. If you have questions to ask, one of these boards or the agent can answer them. Sending a letter to your State capitol or to Washington will only delay the answer because no one has authority to interfere with your local board in passing upon your availability for service.

Keep this booklet with you. Read it. Follow the instructions given in this booklet. If you do this, you should have no trouble in doing your duty under the Selective Service Law and the President's regulations. Remember it is your duty to learn what your local board is doing about you.

This bulletin is only a summary of information and does not have the force and effect of rules and regulations, which govern the operation of the Selective Service Law and are on file in each local board office.

A MESSAGE TO REGISTRANTS FROM THE PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES

I wish I could personally talk to each one of you about our country's pressing need for a stronger defense, and its vital meaning to you, your family, and the whole Nation. I would tell you that the task before us today is as compelling as any that ever confronted our people, and I would add that each of us must willingly do his bit if we are to hold fast our heritage of freedom and our American way of life—our national existence itself.

And whether or not you are to be among those selected, I welcome you as one whose name has been inscribed on the roll of honor of those Americans ready, if need be, to join in the common defense of all.

Franklin D. Roosevelt

