

Colleges to Train Soldier

SELECTED GROUPS TO BE ASSIGNED SPECIFIC TASKS

McNutt Announces Rules for
Picking Schools with Ade-
quate "Facilities."

Press Bulletin
Dec 17 '42
PLAN TERMED DEMOCRATIC

Program Will Start in Febru-
ary; 22 Is Age Limit for
Students.

Basic plans whereby the
Army and Navy will send se-
lected men to take specialized
training courses at colleges
and universities beginning next
February, were announced to-
day by the Secretary of War
and the Secretary of the Navy.

The joint statement did not
designate the institutions or
the number of soldier and
sailor students to be assigned
them under a system some-
what similar to the present
method of choosing applicants
for officers' candidate schools
in the Army, and qualified men
for specific studies after in-
duction, in the Navy.

Chairman Paul V. McNutt

COLLEGES

Continued

of the War Manpower Com-
mission, after consulting the
War and Navy Secretaries,
will prescribe rules for picking
schools "with facilities for un-
dertaking such responsibili-
ties." A joint committee of
representatives of the armed
services and the War Man-
power Commission will make
the actual selection, but Mc-
Nutt will have the final deci-
sion in event of committee dis-
agreement.

Plans Differ Slightly

Both the Army and Navy describe
the program as designed to select
suitable young men for college train-
ing courses "on a broad democratic
basis without regard to financial re-
sources."

The Army and Navy training
plans, while essentially the same so
far as the specialized nature of the
training and the administrative as
well as disciplinary procedures are
concerned, differ in many respects.

"These variations," the statement
explains, "are in both the permanent
plans and in the plans for fitting the
present members of their respective
Enlisted Reserve Corps into the re-
spective permanent programs. The
plans will be operated in harmony
and with mutual assistance."

The statement does not indicate
whether a specific university or col-
lege may have both Army and Navy
training units and courses. Nor does
it detail the studies to be required,
except to indicate they all will be
"practical" and technical in line with
military and naval training.

The plans provide that the men
selected for specialized courses will
be on active duty, in uniform, receive
pay, and be subject to general mili-
tary discipline. They will be taught
by the school faculty members.

"The Armed Services will contact
with colleges and universities which
will furnish to the men, selected by
the services, instruction in curricula
prescribed by the services and also
the necessary housing and messing
facilities," the statement continues.

General Scope Outlined

Prefacing its outline of the Army
and Navy plans, the statement thus
sketches the purpose and general
scope of the project:

"With the demands of a mechan-
ical war and of steadily growing
armed forces, the Army, Navy, Mar-
ine Corps and Coast Guard are in
need of a flow into their respective
services of large numbers of young
men who require specialized, educa-
tional, technical training. Their own
facilities of teaching staff and equip-

ment are not sufficient to meet these
needs.

"The colleges and universities will
have such facilities available. Con-
sequently, the armed services have
together formulated plans to utilize
for these needs to the maximum
practicable extent the resources of
these colleges and universities.

"In formulating these plans, they
have had the benefit of fruitful con-
sultation with many educators and
particularly the staff of the War
Manpower Commission, a committee
of the American Council on Educa-
tion, and the Navy Advisory Coun-
cil on Education. In the administra-
tion of these plans the Army and
Navy are counting on further as-
sistance from the same sources."

Eligibility Rules

Pending the announcement of
names of institutions to be selected
for the establishment of the special-
ized training programs and the num-
ber of service men to be assigned,
the statement declares that "college
officials or representatives will at-
tain no advantage by attempting to
present the merits of their particular
institution to the joint committee."

To be eligible for selection under
the Army plan, a soldier must not
have passed his 22nd birthday, must
have completed "or is completing"
his basic training, and must apply
for selection. The only exceptions
to the age limit apply to those as-
signed to advanced stages of train-
ing at the institutions of higher
learning.

Men whom the Army sends to col-
lege will come entirely from the
ranks or from present college
students enrolled in Enlisted Reserve
units. The Navy not only will select
men from its Enlisted Reserve units
in college, but will enroll other
qualified applicants from civilian
life, induct them in the service, and
assign them to colleges for courses
leading eventually to officer com-
missions or technical specialist rat-
ings.

While the method of sending men
to Army specialized training courses
will follow in general the method of
choosing enlisted or inducted men
for officers' candidate schools, there
also will be "such additional meth-
ods of ascertaining qualifications as
may be deemed appropriate after
consultation with the American
Council on Education." The initial
selection procedure likewise will in-
clude "such tests as will reasonably
assure that the individual selected
is intellectually, temperamentally,
psychologically and educationally
capable of attaining these stand-
ards."

Train as Private

Every selected student sent to a
college by the Army will train in
the grade of private and receive
some military training organized
under a cadet system.

This arrangement differs from the

Navy plan in that it requires a period
of basic training as a soldier before
being assigned to the college train-
ing courses.

The Army program, to date does
not disclose the nature of the
courses except in this general way:

"Curricula will be prepared in
consultation with the American
Council on Education, looking to
the speediest practicable training
for such particular technical tasks.
Varying with the nature of such
tasks, the curricula will call for
varying lengths of the period of
training. They will also vary as to
whether there are basic and ad-
vanced stages in any particular
course of training. Soldiers selected
for training may be assigned to any
stage of a prescribed course which
their previous training fits them to
enter."

12-Weeks Semester

The Army plan indicates a
semester of 12-weeks, whereas that
of the Navy is listed as 16-weeks for
most of the specified courses.

Student soldiers who do not main-
tain academic standards or satisfac-
torily come up to "a system for con-
tinuous screening" will be taken out
of college and reassigned to other
military duty.

"It is essential," the statement de-
clares, "if morale is to be preserved
among those taking the program,
that the soldier feel that his training,
both at elementary and more ad-
vanced stages, is directly pointed at
fitting him for some concrete mili-
tary task for which he is being
trained. It is important, however,
that in the selection and screening,
exceptional technical ability be iden-
tified and conserved, even though it
may not prove to fit directly into
Army tasks."

At the end of his specialized train-
ing in the college or university—
the length of which is not specified—
the soldier may be selected for
"further training in an officer can-
didate school, recommended for a
technical non-commissioned officer,
returned to troops, detailed (in ex-
ceptional cases) for very advanced
technical training, or in very excep-
tional cases, be made available for
technical work to be done out of the
Army but deemed to be highly im-
portant to the war effort."

Medical Students

The Army plan includes special
provisions for medical and pre-
medical students in the Enlisted Re-
serve Corps at college, such students
not in the Enlisted Reserves, and
Seniors and Juniors in the R. O. T. C.
or Enlisted Reserves, and those en-
rolled in approved technical engi-
neering courses.

"All other Enlisted Reserve Corps
students," the statement announces,
"will be called to active duty at the
end of the current semester, or sub-
stantially corresponding academic
period, and upon completion of basic
training will be eligible for selec-

s, Sailors

tion for training under this program or for other military duty."

Medical students, including dentistry and veterinary, in the Enlisted Reserves will be called to active duty at the end of the first full semester that begins in 1943 and will be detailed to continue medical courses "under contracts to be made by the War Department with medical schools."

Pre-medics in the Enlisted Reserve Corps also will be called to active duty at the end of the first full semester that begins in 1943, but only those "selected at induction or at the completion of their basic military training for further medical or pre-medical training will be detailed for such instruction."

Medical and pre-medical students not in the Enlisted Reserves, if inducted under Selective Service before the end of the first full semester that begins in 1943, will be allowed to continue their studies until the end of that semester. They then will be called to active duty and may be detailed for further medical or pre-medical training.

Plans for Seniors

Seniors taking advanced R.O.T.C., including those in the Enlisted Reserves, will be ordered to active duty upon graduation or at the end of the first full semester in 1943, whichever is earlier. They then will be "ordered to their respective branch schools and commissioned upon successful completion of the course."

Juniors (third year college students) in the Enlisted Reserves, if taking approved technical engineering courses, will be called to duty at the end of the first full semester that begins in 1943. Those selected for further technical training at the conclusion of their basic military training in the Army will be assigned for such instruction at the selected colleges.

Juniors not belonging to the Enlisted Reserves but taking technical engineering courses will, if inducted prior to the end of the first full semester starting in 1943, be placed on inactive duty until the end of that period. Then they will be detailed for further college training courses if selected on the completion of their basic military training.

The Navy plan provides that "selected high school graduates or others of satisfactory educational qualifications, having established their proper mental, physical and potential officer qualifications by appropriate examinations, will be inducted in the Navy as apprentice seamen or privates, U. S. Marine Corps, as placed on active duty with pay, and assigned to designated colleges and universities to follow courses of study specified by the Navy Department."

Civilians eligible for selection as trainees must be high school graduates, or students having equivalent formal education, who will have attained their 17th but not their 20th birthdays at the time of induction,

or "enlisted or inducted men with the above educational qualifications who will have reached their 17th but not their 23rd birthdays, and who are recommended by their commanding officer."

May Choose Colleges

Successful candidates will be assigned to the colleges of their choice, subject to geographical limits and student availability within the area, but no guarantees are given in this matter. Such selected students also may express "preliminary choice" of the branch of the naval service such

as Marine Corps or Coast Guard, but "final assignment will be based upon demonstrated ability and counseling during the first two semesters."

Colleges or universities co-operating in the Navy program must accept men assigned to it for training, in accordance with the contract, and "at the same time each institution will be expected to maintain high standards of selectivity in examinations, instructions, etc., and to recommend transfer to other duty of students who fail to meet these standards."

The curricula and training requirements, however, will be fixed by the Navy as will detailed procedures of selection. With the exception of medical and dental officer candidates, engineering specialist students, and chaplains, the training courses will be from two to six semesters of approximately 16 weeks each.

Emphasize Mathematics

"Courses for the first two 16-week terms, or the equivalent, will be similar for all students," the statement announces, "and will emphasize fundamental college work in mathematics, science, English, history, drawing and physical training. All students inducted in the Navy college training program will receive instruction in naval organiza-

tion and general naval orientation. Outlines of all curricula will be prepared by the Bureau of Naval Personnel with such assistance as may be required from representative educators or educational societies."

Present Naval R. O. T. C. units at colleges will be continued. Students holding probationary commissions, on inactive duty in a deferred status, in the Naval Reserve, will be permitted to resign and accept assignment in the college training program as apprentice seamen on active duty. They will be commissioned again in the Naval Reserve on satisfactory completion of the prescribed courses.

Enlistments of college students not yet 18 will be accepted in the present "accredited college program" until March 15, 1943. Thereafter, college students will be eligible for selection for the Navy college training program only through the regular procedure established for all other applicants.

Students now regularly enrolled as reservists in the V-1, or "accredited college program," and the V-5 or V-7 categories applying to Seniors and Juniors deferred until graduation, will be placed on active duty as apprentice seamen and assigned as follows:

Those who have completed six or seven equivalent semesters on July 1, 1943, may complete one or two additional semesters.

Those who at that date have completed five semesters may "pursue a course of two additional equivalent semesters as outlined by the Bureau of Naval Personnel at an institution designated by the Navy."

Three Additional Semesters

Those who at that day have completed four semesters will pursue a program of three additional semesters. Those who have completed three will pursue a program of four additional semesters. Those who have completed one or two equivalent semesters will pursue a program of five or four additional semesters, respectively.

V-1 and V-7 reservists who are undergraduates and who qualify as medical, dental or theological students will be continued on active duty as apprentice seamen under instruction "in accelerated curricula in approved schools and seminaries until completion of their professional studies."

Engineering students who are in good standing in accredited engineering colleges will be allowed a total of eight equivalent semesters since their matriculation in college to complete their studies, regardless of the number of equivalent semesters completed as of July 1, 1942.

As soon as present reservists are placed on active duty they will be

required "to spend full time in following courses of training appropriate to each student's course of study and as prescribed by the Bureau of Naval Personnel . . . These courses will be given throughout the calendar year."