

JOINT ARMY-NAVY RELEASE

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ARMY AND NAVY SET UP PLAN FOR TRAINING SPECIALISTS  
IN COLLEGE

Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson and Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox today issued the following joint statement regarding the utilization of college facilities in training specialists for the Army and Navy:

To maintain a steady flow of young men suitable for specialized educational technical training for the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, the War and Navy Departments will utilize for their training the resources of the colleges and universities of the country. The recent amendment to the Selective Service and Training Act reducing the draft age to 18 years will eliminate the principal source of men college students. The Armed Services have jointly formulated plans to contract for the facilities of a selected number of these college and universities where qualified young men in the services will be detailed for educational training.

In formulating their plans, the Armed Services have had the benefit of fruitful consultation with many educators, and particularly the staff of the War Manpower Commission, The Office of Education, a Committee of the American Council on Education, and the Navy Advisory Council on Education. In the administration of these plans the War and Navy Departments will rely on the same resources for further assistance.

Under the new plans the Army and the Navy will contract with selected colleges and universities to furnish instruction in curricula prescribed by the respective service as well as the necessary housing and messing facilities for the men who will be on active duty, in uniform, with pay and under general military discipline. The selection of particular colleges and universities will be governed by the facilities available for their responsible participation in the educational training program.

The Chairman of the War Manpower Commission, after consultation with the Secretary of War and the Secretary of the Navy, will prescribe the rules and regulations under which institutions of higher learning will be selected for this work. The actual selection will be made by a joint committee consisting of representatives of the Armed Services and the War Manpower Commission.

The procedure for the selection of colleges to be used in the training programs will be announced shortly. Meanwhile college officials or representatives will attain no advantage by attempting to present the merits of their particular institution to the Joint Committee. This organization has a difficult administrative task to perform in an orderly way. On behalf of the Joint Committee, a questionnaire as to their staffs

and facilities has been sent to all the higher educational institutions of the country by the War Manpower Commission. This will furnish the basic information for the use of the Joint Committee.

The plans of the Army and Navy, in their fundamentals, are the same, but there are certain variations in the plans of the respective Services, due to differences in the laws affecting the two Services, and in their requirements and procedures. These variations are in both the permanent plans and in the plans for fitting the present members of their respective Enlisted Reserve Corps into the respective permanent programs. The plans will be operated in harmony and with mutual assistance.

No existing contracts between the Army or Navy and educational institutions will be abrogated by the new programs.

These plans have been approved by the War Manpower Commission and are published in conformity with the provisions of the President's Executive Order on Manpower, dated December 5, 1942.

The new Army plan follows:

#### THE ARMY SPECIALIZED TRAINING PROGRAM

The objective of this plan is to meet the need of the Army for the specialized technical training of soldiers on active duty for certain Army tasks for which its own training facilities are insufficient in extent or character. To that end, the Army will contract with selected colleges and universities for the use of their facilities and faculties in effecting such training of selected soldiers in courses prescribed by the Army. This plan will enable the Army to make a selection for this training of qualified young men on a broad democratic basis without regard to financial resources.

The selection of soldiers for such training will be made from enlisted men who have completed or are completing their basic military training and who apply for selection for specialized training. This selection will follow the general plan now in effect for the selection of enlisted men for Officer Candidate Schools with such additional methods of ascertaining qualifications as may be deemed appropriate after consultation with educators. The War Department will control all selections and only enlisted men under twenty-two years of age will be eligible for selection under this program, except for an advanced stage of technical training.

Military training organized under a cadet system, subordinated to academic instruction, will be instituted. Standards of academic proficiency will be established for continuation of training under this program, and will be announced at a later date.

Appropriate courses will be prescribed by the Army, after consultation with the U. S. Office of Education and the American Council on Education, to prepare for the particular technical tasks outlined by the various Services for

which specialized training under this program is required. Varying with the nature of such tasks, the curricula will call for varying lengths of the period of training. The courses will also vary as to whether there are basic or advanced stages in any stage of a prescribed course which their previous training fits them to enter.

To cover the transition from the Enlisted Reserve program, now in effect, to the Army Specialized program, the following actions will be taken with respect to those now in the advanced R.O.T.C. course and the Enlisted Reserve Corps.

(1) Medical students (including dental and veterinary) in the Enlisted Reserve will be called to active duty at the end of the next academic semester and will be detailed to continue courses of medical instruction under contracts to be made by the War Department. Medical students who have been commissioned in the Medical Administrative Corps may, at the same time, resign such commission, enlist as privates and be detailed in the same manner as medical students in the Enlisted Reserve. Pre-medical students in the Enlisted Reserve Corps, or those inducted before June 30, 1943, taking approved courses, will continue or be returned in an inactive status until the end of the next academic semester and will then be called to active duty. Those selected for further medical or pre-medical training will be detailed for such instruction under the Army Specialized Training Program.

(2) Seniors (fourth year) taking advanced R.O.T.C. will be ordered to active duty upon graduation or upon the completion of the next academic semester. Upon entering active duty, they will be ordered to their respective Branch schools and commissioned upon successful completion of the course.

(3) Juniors (third year) students in the Enlisted Reserve Corps, or inducted before June 30, 1943, who are pursuing approved technical engineering courses will continue in an inactive status until the end of the next academic semester and will then be called to active duty. Those selected at the completion of their basic military training for further technical training, will be detailed for such instruction under the Army Specialized Training program.

(4) All other Enlisted Reserve Corps students will be called to active duty at the end of the current semester, and upon completion of basic training will be eligible for selection for training under this program or other military duty.

At the termination of any phase of specialized training, under this program the soldiers will be selected for:

- (1) Further training in an Officer Candidate School.
- (2) Recommended for a technical non-commissioned officer.
- (3) Returned to troops.
- (4) In exceptional cases, detailed for very advanced technical training.

- (5) In very exceptional cases, be made available for technical work to be done out of the Army, but deemed to be highly important to the war effort.

The assignment of soldiers to the Army Specialized Training program will be placed in effect during the month of February, 1943, except for such action as may be required under the same prior to that time.

The Navy program follows:

#### NAVY COLLEGE TRAINING PROGRAM

The Navy College Training Program is designed to use the facilities of selected colleges and universities for the training of prospective officer candidates in the Navy, the Marine Corps and the Coast Guard. Under this plan selected high school graduates, or others of satisfactory educational qualifications, having established their mental, physical, and potential officer qualifications, will be inducted as apprentice seamen or privates, U. S. Marine Corps, placed on active duty with pay, and assigned to designated colleges and universities to follow courses of study specified by the Navy Department.

The plan will permit selection of the country's best qualified young men on a broad democratic basis, without regard to financial resources, and thus permit the Navy to train young men of superior ability to become officers and specialists.

#### General Outline of the Program

High school graduates, or students having equivalent formal education, 17 through 19 years of age at the time of enlistment or induction will be eligible for the program. Enlisted men 17 through 22 years of age who have proper educational qualifications and are recommended by their commanding officer are eligible to apply for the program. The various geographical areas of the country will be assigned quotas on the basis of population.

Successful candidates will be assigned on active duty to selected colleges and universities for instruction. As far as possible, the preference of any candidates for particular colleges will be respected. Candidates may also express their choice of branches of the service at the time of enlistment, but this preliminary choice will not be binding on them or the Navy Department. Ultimate assignment will be based on demonstrated ability and counseling during the first eight months of the program. During their attendance at the college or university, which must accept all men ordered to it for training, the men will wear uniforms and receive regular pay of the lowest enlisted grade. Quarters, food and medical service, as well as instruction will be provided under contracts entered into by the Navy with the various institutions. Men assigned to this program are eligible at any time for transfer at their own request to aviation training.

The programs of study have been designed to prepare officer material for the various branches of Naval, Marine, and Coast Guard service, including aviation cadets, engineer and deck officers, engineer specialists, medical and dental officers, supply corps officers and chaplains. With the exception of medical and dental officers, engineering specialists, and chaplains, the length of the programs

of study will be from eight to twenty-four months, depending on the requirements of the several branches of the Navy. Courses for the first eight months will be similar for all students and will emphasize fundamental college work in mathematics, science, English, history, engineering drawing, and physical training. Each scholastic term will be of sixteen weeks' duration.

The students will also receive general instruction in the organization of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard. At least one Naval Officer will be assigned to each college selected.

Outlines of curricula are being prepared by the Navy Department with the assistance of educational advisors in various fields. Students who have already covered any portion of the prescribed curriculum and can demonstrate this to the satisfaction of the institution they are attending will be permitted to make substitutions in their program.

In addition to the examinations given by the universities and colleges, the Navy will give achievement examinations at the end of the first eight months. The results of these examinations will be determinative in making further assignments. Any student who fails to maintain a satisfactory standing in his program of studies will be transferred from the College Training Program to some other active duty.

Upon satisfactory completion of their college training, all students will be assigned to additional specialized training in the Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard. If found qualified at the completion of this latter training period they will be commissioned as officers in the appropriate reserve.

#### Requirements for Admission

Young men in civilian life who are interested in the Navy College Training Program must meet the following requirements:

1. Be male citizens of the United States, seventeen through nineteen years of age as of the date of enlistment or induction.
2. Be organically sound, without physical disabilities, and have not less than 18/20 vision.
3. Be prepared to undertake a rigorous program of education on the college level.

Candidates who cannot meet these requirements are advised not to apply. Procedures for the selection of students in conformity with the President's Executive Order on Manpower, dated December 5, 1942 are being prepared by the Bureau of Naval Personnel. Information covering these procedures will be made available later.

#### Status of Present Reserve Programs

The Navy Department has now in operation four programs for the training of male officers, V-1, V-5, V-7 and the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps. Enlistment of college students in the V-1 program will be terminated on March 15,

1943. Under V-1, men were enrolled in accredited colleges and permitted to continue in college for a prescribed period at their own expense. A certain percentage of these men were transferred to V-5 for flight training or V-7 for training for deck or engineering duties.

Under the new program, all reservists in V-1, V-5 and V-7 may continue in college following their present studies until a date to be determined when they will be placed on active duty as apprentice seamen with full pay, subsistence and uniforms. At that time on active duty they will complete their college training which will be accelerated in the case of all students except those who by July 1, 1943 will enter the senior college class and engineering students. Students approved by the Navy Department will continue on active duty as apprentice seamen under instruction in accelerated curricula in approved schools and seminaries until completion of their professional studies. Consideration will be given to the student's choice of the institution to which he will be assigned for the completion of his college course.

The Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps will be continued as an integral part of the new Program. N.R.O.T.C. students will be selected at the end of the first two semesters from students inducted under the Navy College Training Program. All N.R.O.T.C. students in the Naval Reserve will be called to active duty. The present N.R.O.T.C. curricula will be modified so that all professional subjects are given subsequent to the first two semesters.

At a date to be announced, students holding probationary commissions, on active duty in a deferred status, in the United States Naval Reserve will be permitted to resign and accept assignment to the College Training Program as apprentice seamen on active duty. On the satisfactory completion of their prescribed professional education they will again be commissioned in the United States Naval Reserve.

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