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ARMY'S PLAN FOR UNIVERSAL MILITARY TRAINING

26 April 1948

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ARMY'S PLAN FOR UNIVERSAL MILITARY TRAINING

26 April 1948

LT. COLONEL GREER: Gentlemen, the issue of Universal Military Training is becoming so urgent that this morning our scheduled speaker was unexpectedly called to Congress to testify. So we have in his place his very able assistant, Lt. Colonel Quandt, of the O. & T. Division of the Army who is, I am sure, equally able to tell us about UMT. Colonel Quandt was with the Eighty-second Airborne Division early in the war in Sicily, and later was Chief of Staff of the Eleventh Airborne Division in the Pacific. It is a great pleasure to welcome Colonel Quandt to our lecture platform to tell us this morning about the Army's plan for Universal Military Training. Colonel Quandt.

LT. COLONEL QUANDT: The Army's plan for peacetime Universal Military Training was directed to be formed in August 1944. At that time the Chief of Staff, by order of the Secretary of War, issued a directive outlining the type of military establishment to be used for planning purposes. This directive envisaged a professional peace establishment (no larger than necessary to meet normal peacetime requirements) to be reinforced in time of emergency by organized units drawn from a citizen Army reserve, effectively organized for this purpose in time of peace. This directive also assumed, for the purposes of planning, that the Congress would enact a law which would prescribe that every able bodied young American should be trained to defend his country; and that for a reasonable period after his training (unless he volunteered for service in the regular establishment of the Armed Forces) he should be incorporated in a reserve, all or any necessary part of which should be subject to active military duty in the event of an emergency requiring reinforcement of the Regular Army. Since the foregoing directive was issued, various plans for conduct of a Universal Military Training program have been prepared, finally crystallizing in late 1946 into a plan for six months of training followed by entry into several optional programs. The major provisions of current plans remain essentially unchanged.

Current Army planning for Universal Military Training is based on H. R. 4278, a bill which was introduced by Mr. Towe of New Jersey and which was reported to the House by the House Armed Services Committee during the closing days of the first session of the 80th Congress. This bill is now locked in the Rules Committee of the House. The bill conforms to the recommendations set forth in the report of the President's Advisory Committee on Universal Training. It provides for a commission of three members, two civilians and one military, appointed by the President, to control, and direct the program, with the Army, Navy, and Air Force Departments as the operating agencies for the military training portion of the program. The Army supports the general provisions of the bill and of the Compton Report, and has testified to that effect before Congress.

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The physical and mental standards for military training under this program would be considerably lower than those currently in effect for the Regular Military Establishment. In general, the standards would be the same as those in use during the recent war, when all personnel capable of being trained and utilized effectively were inducted.

Regardless of the exact date of passage of the bill, there will exist a large backlog of eligibles between the ages of 18 and 20. To attempt to train this backlog would impose an excessive load initially on the Armed Forces at a time when they would be least capable of absorbing it. It is planned, therefore to exempt permanently all eligibles who are 18 years or older on the date of passage of the UMT bill and initially to accept only those seventeen-year-olds who have graduated from high school and who obtain parental consent for induction. Thereafter, normal eligibility rules will apply. This provides for a gradual build-up within the training, housing and administrative capabilities of the Armed Forces and avoids any selective system of determining who will be inducted.

The Armed Forces have prepared plans based on induction of approximately equal increments on either a quarterly or a semiannual basis. It is possible to conduct the program on a more economical basis with quarterly induction than with semi-annual induction, since different phases of training and administrative processing can be scheduled so as to require less overhead and less equipment. Under the terms of the bill, this question will be determined by the Commission when it is appointed. In the meanwhile the Armed Forces are preparing plans for either semiannual or quarterly inductions. I will show you two slides on either basis that indicates the estimated rate of build-up of the program with quarterly and semiannual inductions.

We assume that U-day will be the first day of July 1949. Chart 1 shows the intake for all the Military Establishment. On that day the first increment will be 70,000. Three months later it will be 91,000, six months later 116,000, and thirty-three months after U-day it will be at the maximum peak load of 212,000 a year, the constant training load.

Chart 2 shows the build up in the case of semiannual induction, twice a year, once in May and again in November. It builds up to maximum peak load in two years.

The National Security Training Selective System, which is a long way of saying "Selective Service," operating under policies prescribed by the Commission, would provide for registration and preliminary classification of registrants for military training, for other training, or for exemption. In accordance with established quotas and schedules, a trainee selected for induction at a particular date would be sent to Armed Forces Induction

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CHART 1  
PROPOSED QUARTERLY INPUT TO ARMED FORCES PORTION OF NST

1 JULY 1949 THRU 1 APRIL 1952

ALL FIGURES  
IN THOUSANDS

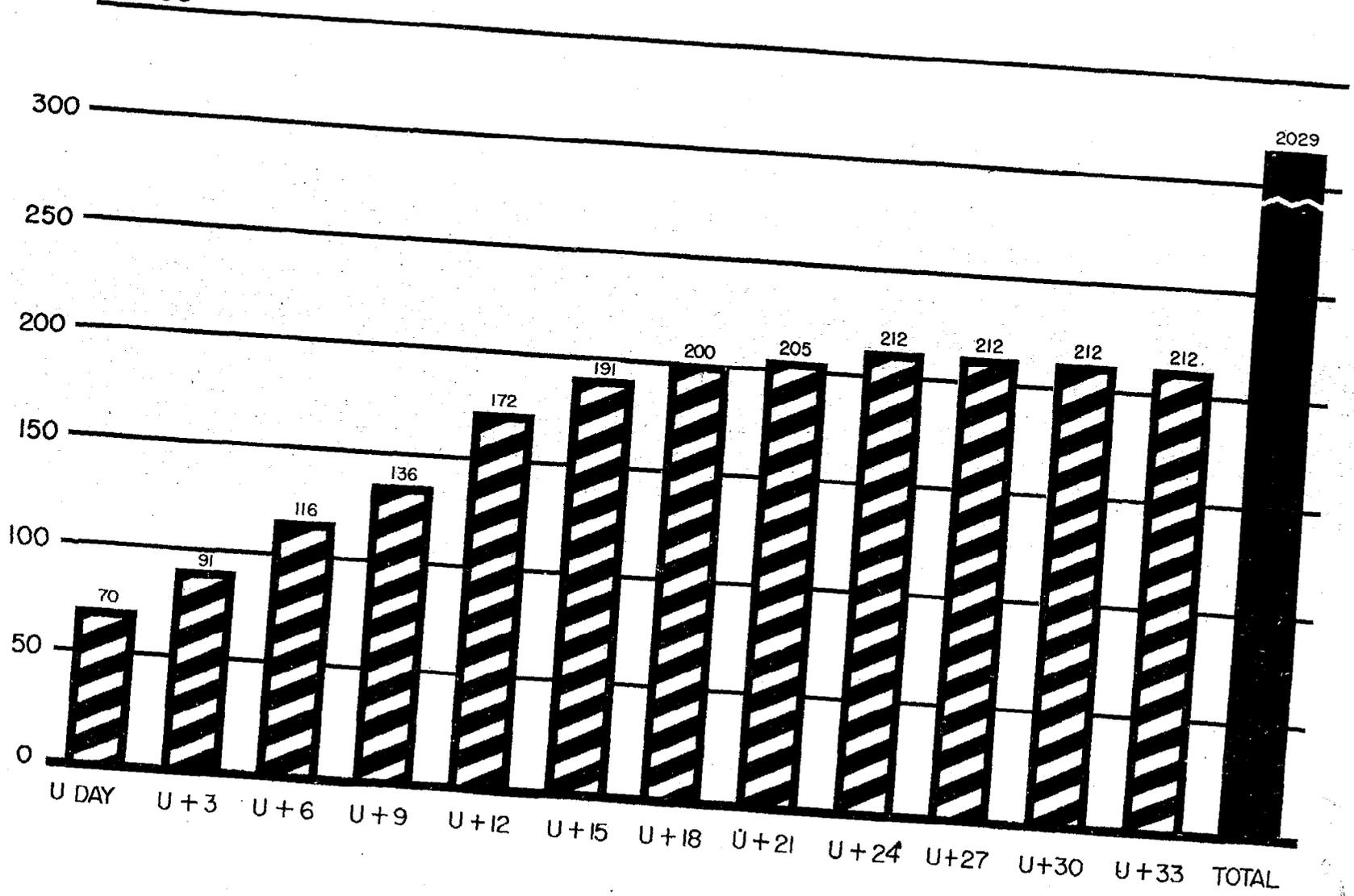
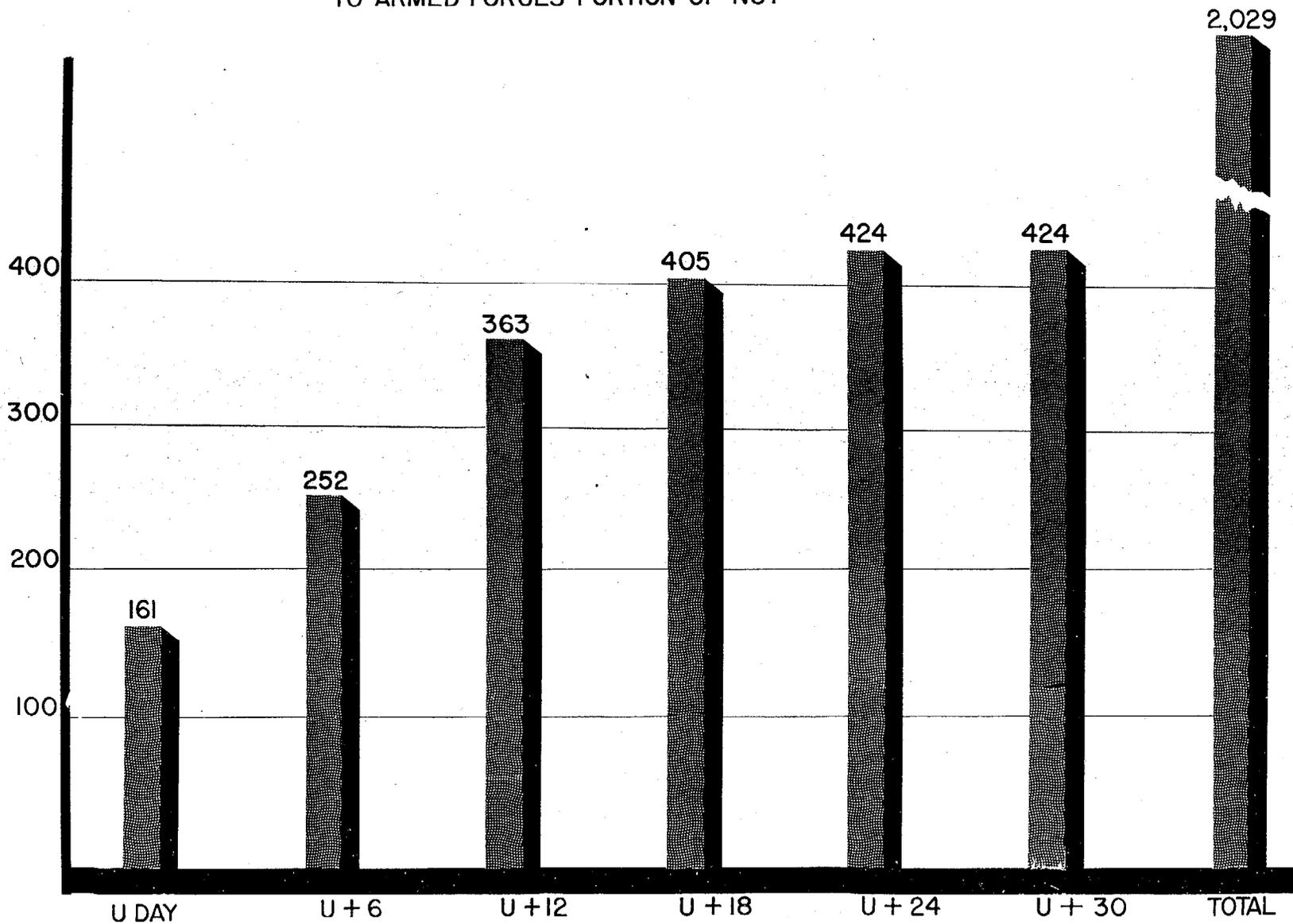


CHART 2  
PROPOSED SEMI ANNUAL INPUT  
TO ARMED FORCES PORTION OF NST



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Stations during the preceding 80-day period for physical examination, mental examination, preliminary allocation to one of the Armed Forces, or rejection. Fifty-eight of these induction stations have been selected, generally distributed to provide population and geographical coverage. On completion of this examination, he would return to his home. If accepted for military training, he would be again sent to the induction station in the ten-day period preceding his induction date, where he would be actually inducted. At this time, his records would be initiated and he would be assigned and transported to a particular training station.

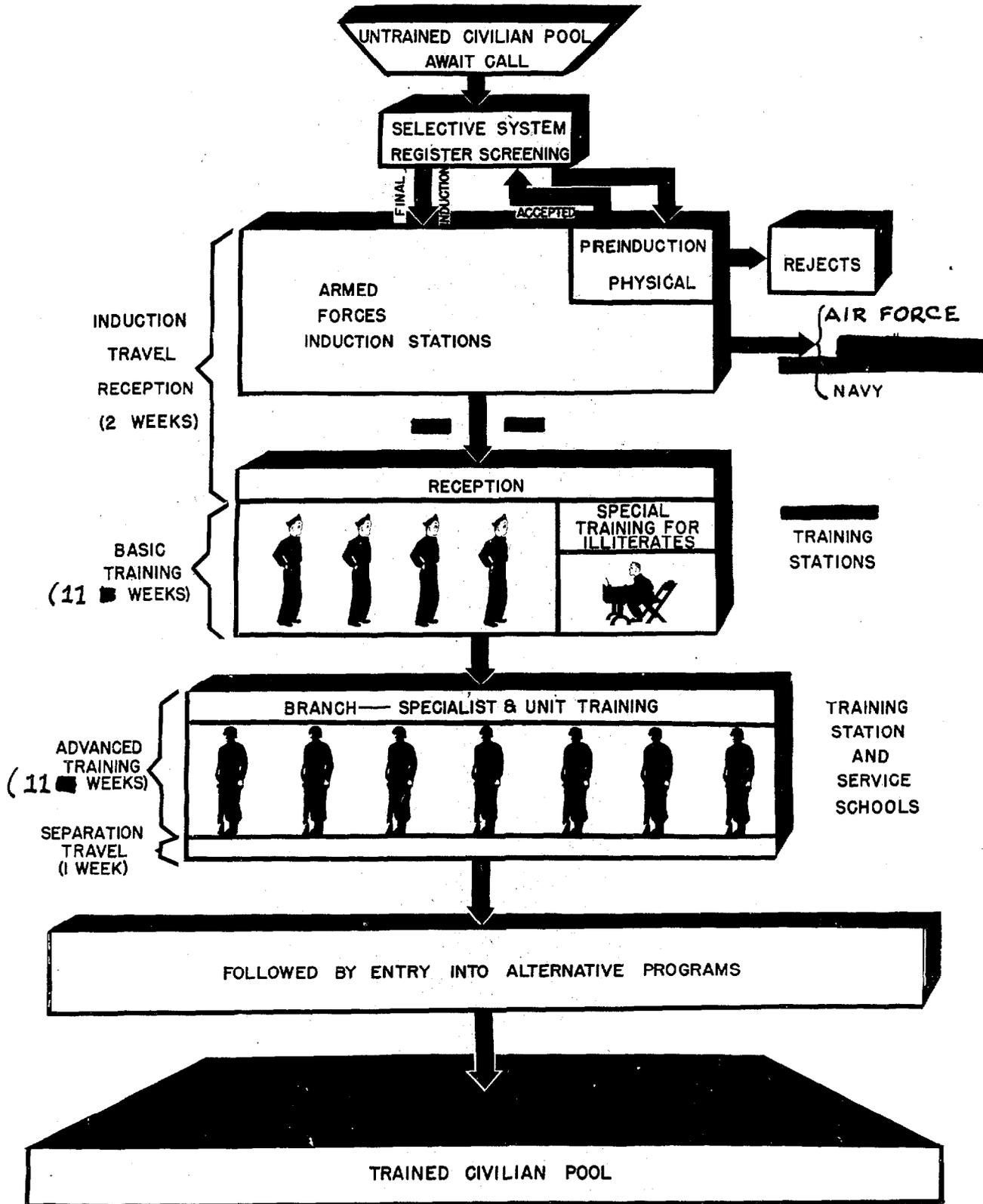
Chart 3 shows the processing which a trainee goes through. He is in the untrained civilian pool and normally awaits call to the induction station. When the local Selective Service board calls him, he is sent to the induction station. There he is given this over-all induction physical examination. If he is accepted, he goes right back home. If he is rejected, he goes home also. Then, if he is accepted, he is called again to the induction station, where he is processed for induction into the UMT program and sent to the UMT station.

We figure this processing will take two weeks before he arrives at the station. Once he arrives at the station, he immediately begins eleven weeks of basic training. At the completion of that he enters the advanced or branch training phase, which lasts eleven weeks. That is followed by one week's separation, with physical examination and travel to his home. After completion of his entire obligation he enters what we call the trained civilian pool. We show the Air Force and the Navy being trained here at the induction station. Actually the local board assigns them to one of the three Armed Forces according to quotas set up by the commission.

The Army has tentatively selected twenty-three stations for the conduct of this program, generally distributed throughout the Continental U. S. On arrival at the designated training station, the trainee would be given comprehensive reception processing to include initial billeting, orientation, clothing issue, physical inspection, immunization and blood typing, initiation of basic records, adjustment of personal affairs, preliminary classification testing, interview, preliminary option selection and assignment to a training unit. It is estimated that it would take about two weeks to complete the induction, transportation, and reception processing of an entire increment of trainees. The training program which follows would vary in detail with each of the services but, in general, would be divided equally between basic "recruit" training and "specialized" training. Illiterate and non-English speaking personnel would be given more limited military instruction combined with special courses designed to give them the equivalent of a fourth-grade education. They would be assigned to special educational units. The training and off-duty programs would include adequate provision for the information, education, morality and

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# FLOW OF TRAINEES



recreational features recommended by the President's Commission on Universal Training. The first eleven weeks would be devoted to training in basic subjects common to all arms and services. The remaining eleven weeks would be for the most part devoted to more specialized training for a specific branch. Initially this branch training would include: Infantry, Artillery, Engineers, Armor, Signal, Transportation, Chemical, Ordnance, Quartermaster and Medical subjects. In addition, a portion of the trainees would be given specific specialist training in schools, both at the training station and at existing service schools. The final week has been set aside for separation processing, consisting of final physical check, turn-in of equipment, election of alternative program and transportation to home. This completes the initial twenty-five week (6 months) period which would be required for every trainee. We call that 25 weeks instead of 26, because we have given a two-week furlough at Christmas time.

The U. S. Army would conduct the entire program in Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Canal Zone, and Alaska. In Hawaii, the Army would train 70 percent of the eligibles and the Air Force would train the remainder. In general, the programs would parallel those in the Continental U. S.

U. S. Air Force.--The first six months of Air Force training is to be conducted on similar lines in each of nine basic and general technical Air Force training centers. The trainee will be screened and phased into one of twelve general training courses as follows: (1) Administrative and Clerical; (2) Airplane and Engine Maintenance; (3) Armament; (4) Communications; (5) Photography; (6) Weather; (7) Shop Practices; (8) Automotive Maintenance; (9) Airdrome Construction and Maintenance; (10) Nonspecialists; (11) Manual Trades; (12) Medical.

General technical training in one of the above courses will be conducted on a half-day basis. The other half-day will be devoted to basic military training. It is not envisioned that the majority of the trainees will be fully trained specialists upon completion of this Phase I training and thereby qualified to be given a Specification Serial Number (SSN). They will, however, have a firm foundation on which further training may be based, whether it be in technical training schools or on-the-job training with units of the Regular Air Force, the Air National Guard or Air Reserve, or some other Air Force training at a later date. The Air Force does not plan for any trainees to receive any type of flight training.

U. S. Navy and Marine Corps.--The Navy and Marine Corps have selected 10 main training sites for UMT training. The first eleven weeks of training for the Navy and Marine Corps will be essentially the same as recruit training now given to regular recruits. The second part of the training period (11 week period) will be devoted to specialized training. The Navy's phase of specialized training will consist of the following types of



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The next option is entrance into one of the service academies. The size of the classes at the service academies each year is of course, determined by the Congress, and would determine the annual quota available for UMT quotas. At present it is estimated that 1,250 will enter these academies each year from the Army's quota of UMT trainees.

The next option is enlistment in the Enlisted Reserve Corps and entrance upon a college course including ROTC training, and an agreement to accept a Reserve commission if offered upon completion of the course. It is estimated that 60,000 a year would select this option. That is based on the present size of the Army's ROTC quota.

The next option is enlistment in the Enlisted Reserve Corps and the pursuance of an approved course of specialist or technical training in such schools, colleges or universities as may be approved by the Department of the Army. It is estimated that 5,500 would elect this option, and this includes an agreement to accept a commission if offered, upon completion of the course. This and the preceding option (ROTC) are known as the educational options, and a limited number of scholarships might be provided by the Government for specially selected personnel.

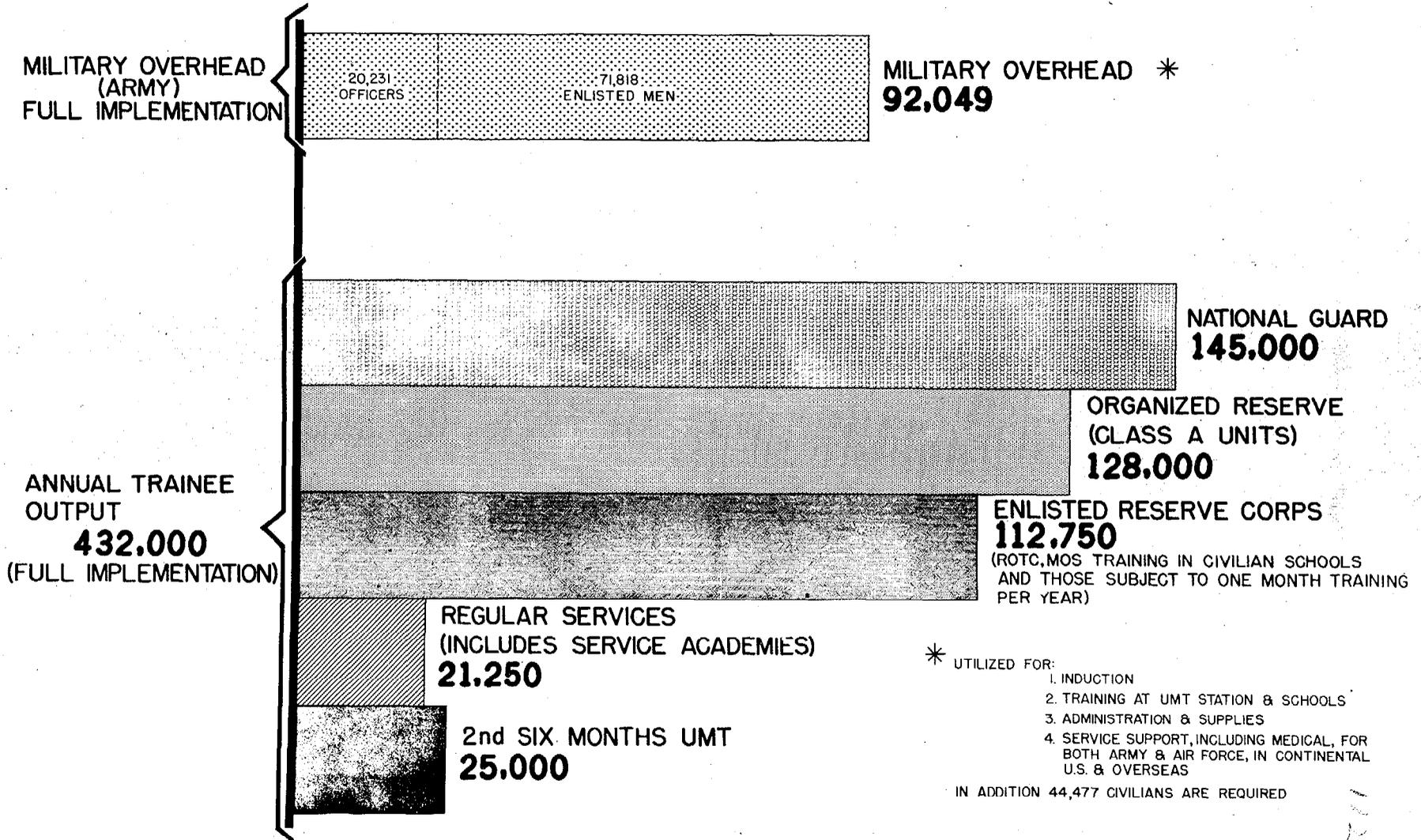
The best option, known as the catch-all option, is enlistment in the Enlisted Reserve Corps for six years subject to six months active duty training, of which not to exceed one month would be required in any one year. This option would be restricted to those trainees who cannot elect another option because of lack of vacancies, or because the location of their places of residence, place of employment, or place of study prohibits them from selecting one of the other options. It is estimated that a total of 47,250 would enter this option annually. "Estimate" is the wrong word, since that quota is obtained by subtracting the sum of the other quotas from the total annual intake.

Acceptance of a scholarship in one of the educational options would be accompanied by an agreement on the part of the trainee to perform service in one of the components of the Armed Services for a period of time prescribed by the President, upon completion of the course, as may be prescribed. The period of service in each of the programs, except the last one, would be prescribed by the President in order to insure completion of training which would be equivalent to the second six months of the one year's continuous training in the Corps. Provision will be made for a system of training credits so that men can transfer from one option to another if they move away or if for any other reason they have to give up the option they originally selected.

The trainee who remains for the second six months of training in the National Security Training Corps will receive alternative training, which means that he will replace the cadre of instructors in the schools of UMT. Such training will include:

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# UMT (ARMY)



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The current plan provides for gradual implementation starting one year after enactment of legislation and is essentially a peacetime plan of long-range concept designed primarily to fill the reserve components with basically well-trained fillers and to build up a mobilization pool.

During the year following enactment of legislation and appropriations therefor, it has been assumed that the necessary implementing steps will occur in an orderly, timely manner. These steps will include the appointment of the UMT Commission and the promulgation of its policies; promulgation of the necessary implementing directives; the procurement and training of the necessary overhead as an augmentation to the Regular Establishment; the activation of units and stations and rehabilitation of installations and facilities; the procurement and shipment of supplies and equipment; and, finally registration, induction, and shipment of the first increment of trainees from homes to stations.

With reference to the first step, the appointment and establishment of the UMT supervisory commission is not a factor affecting early implementation. The Secretary of Defense is currently supervising preparation of UMT plans by all governmental agencies and can assume the functions of the commission until it is established and operating.

The program will be carried out within the current organizational structure of the Army. No separate headquarters will be established above the training station level. Under general policies and standards established by the commission in charge of the program, the Department of the Army will prepare and issue the detailed regulations and other implementing directives for operation of its portion of the program. The Chief, Army Field Forces, will exercise general supervision over the training. The Commanding Generals of the Six Field Armies will have direct responsibility for administration, supply, and training at the UMT stations. Special type training divisions will be established at each UMT station. In general, these divisions will conform to a standard organizational pattern, but will vary in size and composition for each particular station from 8,000 to 16,000 trainees. The troop basis of each station will conform, insofar as practicable, to the reserve component troop basis of the area from which the trainees for that station are derived.

The steps for publication of implementing directives are fairly complete and are based, of course, on currently proposed legislation. The over-all policy plans of the Department of the Army have been recently revised and given wide distribution to all planning agencies. The detailed plans of Army Field Forces, including Tables of Distribution, Tables of Allowances, and Training Programs have been completed, and are being reviewed and prepared for publication by the Department of the Army at the appropriate time. Appropriate agencies of the Department of the Army have prepared initial drafts of implementing directives and regulations, and these are presently being reviewed by the General Staff Divisions. After approval they will be held in readiness in draft form for publication at the appropriate time, when the money becomes available. Plans for a separate accounting system for UMT have been prepared and been tested in one

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the Regular Army, no matter what the date of implementation of UMT, will not materially affect this 10 percent, since it represents generally items in long supply. Procurement of new equipment for the program will require from nine months to one year. Heretofore, it was planned to support the UMT program initially from current Army assets, which supplies would be returned to army stocks as they were obtained from the UMT procurement program. These same assets will now have to be utilized for expansion of the Regular Army. Therefore, the UMT program can not be implemented in less than nine months after appropriation of funds unless there is some sacrifice in equipment standards. If this nine-month lead time for procurement materializes, the effect of the phased UMT program on the Regular Army expansion program will be insignificant.

Current planning is based on inducting the first increment of trainees on 1 July 1949. In order to permit gradual economic assembly and training of overhead and to provide adequate facilities and equipment, the Armed Forces favor a gradual implementation of the program over a period of approximately two and a half years with induction increments gradually increasing to the maximum of full implementation. As previously stated, to effect this gradual build-up without introducing the element of individual selection, it is planned to exempt permanently all eligibles who are 18 or older on the initial date of induction. The group thus exempted plus the older age groups are the ones from which Selective Service will probably draw personnel for the Regular Military Establishment.

The annual recurring cost of the combined Army and Air Force program is estimated to be about one billion dollars. This is the operating cost when the program reaches full-scale implementation. It includes all costs of the program; that is, pay, subsistence and travel of all trainees, cadre and overhead personnel, procurement and renovation of all replacement equipment, and rehabilitation, maintenance and operation of all installations and facilities. It does not include the cost of any of the optional programs except the one in which the trainees may elect to stay for a second six months in the UMT camps.

The above estimates when added to those of the Navy total an impressive sum. A portion of these costs is occasioned by the inclusion of many desirable features such as a comprehensive branch and school training program and an extensive I&E program as well as an ambitious recreational program. It is quite probable that the sums finally appropriated will not allow for all of these activities on the planned scale and that a more austere program may have to be implemented. However, it is not considered desirable to lower the quality of the program unless compelled to do so by appropriations.

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Question three is: "How will trainees be selected for this specialist training?" The qualifications for entering this specialist training are not finally determined at this time. However, our trainees will volunteer for specialist training within quotas which are set up by the Secretary of Defense and in turn by the Secretaries of the three departments. Those who go to schools and attend long-term training and those acting as cadre replacements will be required to have an AGCT score of 90 or above. They will have to have a perfect disciplinary record, or as nearly perfect as can be expected, during their first six months; and they will have passed an aptitude test showing proper fitness for the course.

Question four: "What control would be exercised over those persons deferred?" The local boards will exercise control over those who may be deferred from UMT. I think that question contemplates conscientious objectors. The Commission, when it is appointed, will determine the disposition of conscientious objectors. The military services have not made any plans for training conscientious objectors except those who can be used in hospitals. We hope the Commission will not turn this mission over to us.

Question five: "What other programs have been suggested in lieu of Universal Military Training?" No effective alternatives to UMT have been suggested. Many individuals have proposed plans for short terms of summer training on a universal scale, but none of these plans will produce a result commensurate with the cost of the program. Unless, such as UMT, some means can be found of filling the Reserve components with trained personnel, thereby making them available for immediate employment in an emergency, the only effective substitute appears to be a much larger Regular Army. This could be done only through a Selective Service system and at greatly increased cost.

Question six: "How will Universal Military Training affect civilian defense?" The great asset which will accrue to civilian defense will be the establishment of an increasing pool of civilian manpower trained basically as soldiers and disciplined to act in unison in case of disaster. Utilization of this pool is being incorporated in civil defense plans currently being formulated by the Department of the Army, but planning is still in the preliminary stage. Determination of how they will be integrated into the program has not yet been made.

Question seven: "How will Universal Military Training affect the labor force in peacetime? In war?" It seems to us that this is probably the question in which you are most interested. The answer is somewhat lengthy and is taken from Appendix 9 of the Report of the President's Advisory Commission on Universal Training, and covers the subject in some detail. A few pertinent paragraphs are quoted herewith:

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Question eight: "In the event of war after several years of Universal Military Training, explain in some detail how the several classes of graduates will be fitted into the Armed Forces." Those who have completed their entire obligation and have returned to civilian status will be subject to the draft under the selective service laws obtaining at the time. Probably those UMT graduates who are deferred from the draft for one reason or another will be utilized in the civil defense program. Assignment to units upon induction will be greatly facilitated because of the extensive classification records which will have been compiled during the draftee's UMT training. Those who enter the Reserve and National Guard will be called to Federal service with their units.

It is assumed that when such emergency occurs, Congress will immediately pass legislation which will induct all trainees in the UMT training system into the Armed Forces and therefore terminate the UMT program as such.

Those are all the questions I received from Colonel Greer.

COLONEL GREER: Are there any other questions?

QUESTION: There is a plan to merge UMT with Selective Service. How will that affect your training if that should come to pass?

COLONEL QUANDT: As I understand it, that plan envisions inducting the UMT age group into the Regular Army. The only difference between the training as applied to that age group and training in the Regular Army would be in the shorter term of enlistment, with transfers to one of the Reserve components at the end of enlistment. It should not greatly affect the training, as I have outlined it this morning, since this age group would be brought into the Regular Army as such. The training will be the same as is in effect in the Regular Army at the present time.

QUESTION: I believe you likened it in some instances to the national service training. With that in mind, I wonder why conscientious objectors should not be included, since they are not necessarily going to serve unless they are subsequently drafted.

COLONEL QUANDT: We call them national security trainees, a term devised by the Compton Commission to include all eligibles.

The program does include all conscientious objectors. In one way or another they are provided for in the bill before Congress. I have touched only on the training as it is planned for the three departments of the military service. But, as I said, we hope to avoid training conscientious objectors. Some plans have been advanced. They might go under the Department of Labor, to be utilized by them, or some other department of the Federal Government.

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them their physical examination there. The three departments have tentatively agreed to accept the local community doctors' say-so that the man is physically all right. That is the only way, so far as I can see, that we have to solve that shortage of medical personnel. It is a tremendous problem and has not wholly been solved as yet.

QUESTION: When you say that the Army hopes to have nothing to do with the training of conscientious objectors, do you include that group who are willing to indulge in noncombatant service also?

COLONEL QUANDT: No, I do not. We have made plans to utilize those people in noncombatant training, especially in the Medical Corps.

QUESTION: What disability benefits are proposed to be given trainees:

COLONEL QUANDT: The same disability benefits which now apply to civil service workers. They will be administered by the Federal Employees Compensation Commission, with the basis for computation of those benefits that each trainee receives \$87.50 a month. They are actually receiving \$30 in pay, but with the allowances it makes up the basis of \$87.50 a month. There is a dependency allowance also of \$50 for one dependent and \$65 for two or more, paid while the trainee is in the service.

QUESTION: We had some speakers down here this year who were very critical of UMT. They said if Congress would approve of UMT, it would be on the basis that the Army could handle it on the standard which they had over at Fort Knox. These speakers said they don't believe we can do that. Would you comment on our possibility to maintain that standard throughout the entire length of the service?

COLONEL QUANDT: We are convinced that it can be handled in the same manner as it has been handled in the battalion at Fort Knox, and with fewer people in the overhead as a matter of fact. But it can only be done if enough money is appropriated by Congress to handle it that way. Fort Knox is an expensive training camp. If we don't get the money, it can't be done. Those who say it is impossible to do are absolutely wrong. It can be done and done easily if the money is appropriated.

QUESTION: What do you estimate it will take in money to train one man?

COLONEL QUANDT: I don't believe I can estimate it. But I don't think we can use the Fort Knox cost as a comparable figure, because when we expand nation-wide, it should not cost as much. But I don't believe I can estimate the cost in that manner.

QUESTIONER: I thought somebody had probably figured it out by this time.

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This court is called the National Security Training Court, and its composition is largely the same as the special courts in the Army now. Far more serious crimes the civil court system is interwoven with the National Security Training Court system. The UMT turns trainees over to a civil court for serious crimes. For lesser offenses a court of trainees is set up; and that court will award demerits or extra hard labor or something like that, subject to the approval of the company commander. This Code of Conduct is a watered-down Articles of War, but very similar.

QUESTION: Would it cut the 850,000 down very much if you exempted those individuals who had dependents? How large is that group? Does it bear any really important relationship to the total amount of money?

COLONEL QUANDT: It is very small, even the annual recurring costs, at that age group. It is not negligible, but it is extremely small compared with the other costs.

QUESTION: I remember when UMT was first proposed a couple of years ago the Army came out flat-footedly and said that unless they could have these people for a full year, the thing wouldn't be worth putting into effect. Now we are talking about a six-month quota. Are we talking about six months because we are being forced to it by public opinion and Congressional action, or do we honestly believe that six months will suffice for the necessary training?

COLONEL QUANDT: We did propose one year. The American Legion proposed four months at the same time with just as much conviction. We compromised by saying that six months plus the optional program was considered sufficient. I expect it is a compromise, but it also is a recession from our earlier position provided the optional courses are included in the program.

CAPTAIN ROWLEY: You gave us a very fine presentation. There is only one thing I don't understand and that is about where, or will it be anywhere, in the young man's educational career is this going to cut? No matter where he is, in high school or any type of college or technical school or trade school, when he gets to that age is he eligible?

COLONEL QUANDT: We spare those in secondary schools. They can be deferred until they are twenty years old, so long as they are pursuing a course in a secondary school. The cut actually comes between graduation from high school and whatever the next higher education would be for the particular youngster. Ordinarily a youngster who is not in school will be inducted at the age of 18; but if he is going to high school, he will be deferred from induction until he reaches the age of 20 or until he completes high school, whichever occurs earlier.

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they will be allowed certain credits toward passing the degree. The credits will depend on the report from the military school. In that case the universities are fully in accord with what military training we can give these people. In the period of three years they have really undergone a full year's military training including what you might call training common to all arms, as well as some specialist training such as in the medical schools.

COLONEL QUANDT: I would say it would have to be universally done if at all. Our situation is such that not all of our universities are fully in accord with Universal Military Training, and I should think that such credit would have to be established by the Educational Council. We have made no attempt to include that in any of our recommendations.

QUESTION: I mean, have you consulted the universities asking if they would go in?

COLONEL QUANDT: Yes. And we have been consulted by those who have been in favor of it. But we have not as yet arrived at any such a scheme.

COLONEL McCULLCCH: Where does this program dovetail with the high school and college that have ROTC training? The boy may have had such training in high school and may be pretty well advanced in his UMT training before he is inducted.

COLONEL QUANDT: That is correct. Of course, high schools that have ROTC desire that we exempt their youngsters from UMT. However, you can see what opposition would arise among the schools that did not have ROTC if we did that. We have decided as a matter of Armed Services policy not to give credit in UMT for junior ROTC, nor to have UMT service earn credits in the senior ROTC program initially. Until the program has reached full implementation, the youngster enrolled in senior ROTC will be exempted from UMT. That is as far as we have gone so far.

COLONEL GREER: Colonel, I want to thank you very much for your interesting lecture. I think you have answered every one of our questions and given us a lot of information. Thank you.

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