

July 6<sup>th</sup>, 1925.

MEMORANDUM for the Assistant Secretary of War.

1. Forwarded herewith is the First Annual Report of the Army Industrial College, for the Year ending June 30, 1925.

H. B. FERGUSON,  
Director, Army Industrial College.

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ARMY INDUSTRIAL COLLEGE.  
Washington, D.C.

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT.

(Year Ending June 30, 1925)

1. The Army Industrial College was formally instituted by General Order No. 7, War Department, February 25, 1924. It was actually started informally on February 1, 1924. The first class, numbering nine officers, was graduated June 26, 1924. No formal report was prepared for the period of February 1, 1924 to June 30, 1924.

2. During the year for which this report is rendered, two classes have been graduated. The second class was composed of thirteen officers who were under instruction during the period September 2, 1924 to February 2, 1925, on which latter date they were graduated. The third class, composed of twenty-one officers of the Regular Army, four Naval officers and one Reserve officer taking a special course, was under instruction during the period February 2, 1925 to June 30, 1925, on which latter date they were duly graduated.

3. The complete list of graduates to date is as follows:

First Class, February 1, 1924 to June 26, 1924:

Lt.Col. Ira F. Fravel, A.S.  
Lt.Col. Arthur J. Lynch, Q.M.C.  
Major Sanford W. French, M.C.  
Major W. A. McCain, Q.M.C.  
Major Lawrence Watts, S.C.  
Major John K. Clements, Ord.  
Major R. H. Semers, Ord.  
Lieut. Harry O. Tunis, C.E.  
Lieut. Harry R. Lebkicher, C.W.S.

Second Class, September 1, 1924 to February 2, 1925:

Lt.Col. Wm. G. Ball, Q.M.C.  
Lt.Col. Robt. Davis, S.C.  
Major Lucius L. Hopwood, M.C.  
Major Clifford L. Corbin, Q.M.C.  
Major H. H. Arnold, A.S.  
Major James W. Lyon, C.W.S.  
Major R. R. Nix, Ord.

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Second Class, cont'd.

Major Cherubusco Newton, Fin.  
Major Wm. A. Borden, Ord.  
Major E. C. Kelton, C.E.  
Capt. T. J. Hanley, A.S.  
Capt. Wilbur S. Elliott, Q.M.C.  
Capt. Vennard Wilson, Ord.

Third Class, February 2, 1925 to June 30, 1925:

Capt. Elliot Snow, C.C., U.S.N. ✓  
Capt. J. R. Defrees, U.S.N. ✓  
Lt.Col. Clement C. Whitcomb, M.C.  
Cmdr. D. C. Cather, M.C., U.S.N. ✓  
Lt.Col. Richard T. Ellis, Q.M.C.  
Lt.Col. Chas. E. Reese, Q.M.C.  
Cmdr. L. W. Jennings, Jr., S.C., U.S.N. ✓  
Lt.Col. Walter C. Baker, C.W.S.  
Major Larry B. McAfee, M.C.  
Major Alvin G. Gutensohn, S.C.  
Major Fred Seydel, C.W.S.  
Major Douglas C. Cordiner, Q.M.C.  
Major Charles A. Schimelfenig, Ord.  
Major Ira A. Rader, A.S.  
Major Douglas B. Netherwood, A.S.  
Major Shepler W. Fitzgerald, A.S.  
Major Rudolph W. Riefkohl, Q.M.C.  
Major Russell L. Maxwell, Ord.  
Major Harry F. Cameron, O.E.  
Major James L. Frink, Q.M.C.  
Captain Sylvester E. Nortner, C.E.  
Captain E. E. MacMorland, Ord.  
Captain Wm. J. Henry, Ord.  
Lieut. Hugh W. Rowan, C.W.S.  
Lieut. Chas. W. Steinmetz, A.S.

Col. Walter A. Dempsey, QMC-Res. (Special  
course for Reserve Officers).

The following were awarded certificates of graduation under special authority of the Acting Secretary of War, having acted as instructors and lecturers during the course and having completed work equivalent to the full course:

Col. E. S. Walton, Q.M.C.  
Col. Irvin L. Hunt, Q.M.C.  
Lt.Col. J. D. Fife, M.C.  
Major Chas. R. Pettis, C.E.

4. At the Graduation Exercises held on June 30, 1925, certificates of appointment as Honorary Advisors to the Army Industrial College were awarded the following named individuals in appreciation of their valuable contribution to our National Defense through industrial preparedness:

- Bernard M. Barush.
- Robt. S. Brookings.
- John J. Carty.
- Benedict Crowell.
- Chas. G. Dawes.
- Samuel M. Felton.
- Elbert H. Gary.
- Walter S. Gifford.
- William Green.
- Alexander Legge.
- Franklin H. Martin.
- Frank A. Scott.
- Guy E. Tripp.
- Daniel Willard.

Methods of Instruction: As far as practicable, instruction has been given by the "case system". Definite problems have been given with appropriate references and the preparation of written solutions on the part of the student required. This method is believed to be thoroughly sound and will be continued in the future work of the College.

Elegible List: The proposition of establishing an eligible list from which officers to serve in the office of the Assistant Secretary of War shall be chosen in the same manner that officers are selected from the General Staff eligible list for General Staff service is one that recurs continuously in the minds of student officers and others. It is thought that a very little analysis will show that this is not a desirable thing to do. There are at least three very vital objections to this.

(1) The College should not need this protection. If its graduates do not get enough from the course to make them especially valuable to their branch chiefs for such assignments, it has failed in its mission and should be discontinued. If branch chiefs fail to make proper selections for detail, all things considered, the "eligible list" is not the proper solution.

(2) It would be very bad for the general esprit to make it impossible for an officer, perhaps of splendid

attainments and large experience, to be detailed on procurement duty merely because, through no fault of his own, he has not had the chance to take the course. The graduate will naturally always have an advantage over the non-graduate, other things being equal. If, under these circumstances, the non-graduate appears the better selection, for a given position, he should have it.

- (3) No artificial restriction should be placed in the way of branch chiefs and others who are charged with fitting available personnel to existing demands. The problem is difficult at best and the sole criterion should be the best interests of the service, all things considered. This may, and frequently will mean that the best man for a particular position cannot be put in that position because he is also the best for another and more important one.

Full Year's Course: It is recommended that the length of the course be increased to a full academic year, beginning in September, 1926, and that the number of officers authorized to attend from the supply branches be increased to thirty (30), distributed as follows:

Quartermaster General.....	6
Ordnance Department.....	6
Air Service.....	6
Chemical Warfare Service.....	3
Medical Department.....	3
Signal Corps.....	3
Corps of Engineers.....	3

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