ORDERS B

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Washington 25, D. C., 21 December 1948

REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO OCCUPATIONAL DEFERMENT

1. An occupational deferment policy of the National Military Establishment, applicable to the Selective Service Act of 1948, has been established. In part, the policy, issued by the Munitions Board on 17 September 1948, states that--

> 1. The fundamental purpose of the Selective Service Act of 1948 is to strengthen national security by making provision for increasing the strength of the Armed Forces. The Act also makes possible occupational deferment of persons whose civilian occupation or activity is necessary to the maintenance of the national health, safety or interest. The National Military Establishment is doubly interested in the problem of occupational deferment; first by virtue of its being the user of military manpower, and secondly, by virtue of being one of the largest users of material and services produced by civilian manpower. In the first instance, it is interested in seeing that deferments do not interfere with the attainment of military manpower objectives; in the second, in seeing that continuation of essential services, research and development, or production of concern to the Military Establishment is not impaired. Because the National Military Establishment has this dual interest, the occupational deferment policy of the Establishment must be strict and exemplary.

2. In order to carry out the fundamental purpose of the Selective Service Act of 1948, the following policies of the Department of the Army have been established:

a. To request the occupational deferment of certain essential civilian personnel (direct employees of the Department);

b. To support such a request by a private employer whose work is of importance to the Department;

c. To maintain a strict and exemplary interpretation of the criteria for making requests for deferments as set forth in Selective Service Regulations.

3. For the purpose of effectuating the policy of the Department I have established the Department of the Army Occupational Deferment Committee.

a. This Committee will act in my name and establish such regulations and procedures as are necessary to discharge its responsibility.

b. This Committee will take appropriate measures to review and audit appeal actions, or actions in support of appeals by private employers, to assure consistency with the strict interpretation of the principles of the Selective Service Regulations.

c. The members of this Committee are authorized to serve as representatives of the Department to the Munitions Board, and through

that Board make representation to the Director of the Selective Service System.

4. Authority to request deferments, initiate appeals, make representations and give support is delegated to commanding officers.

a. Commanding officers are authorized within the principles set forth above to request the deferment of certain essential civilian personnel (direct employees of the Department) or support such a request by a private employer whose work is of importance to the Department.

b. Commanding officers are authorized also within the principles set forth above to initiate or support appeal actions to Appeal Boards under the provisions of the Selective Service Regulations. They may also make representations to the State Director as deemed advisable, in accordance with Selective Service Regulations.

5. Records will be maintained of all actions taken by commanding officers in regard to Occupational Deferment matters and reports of such actions will be rendered as directed by competent authority.

6. Orders E, 7 April 1943, and E (corrected), 10 April 1943; Administrative Memorandum W-41, 28 September 1943; and Memorandum 600-770-1 are rescinded. Complete instructions for implementing the provisions of these orders will be published in CPR D1, 21 December 1948.

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Acting Secretary of the Army

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