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ARCHIVAL PUBLICATIONS
ON SELECTIVE MILITARY SERVICE

Generally speaking, the archives of not too many sciences are as well developed and organized in the United States as in Greece. This is perhaps more true with respect to economic and social disciplines. It may not be quite the situation, however, in regard to data for the study of selective military service.

THE ROLE PLAYED BY SELECTIVE SERVICE

In the event archival materials on American selective military service are in better circumstances than those of other fields, this is due largely to the efforts of General Lewis B. Hershey, head of Federal Selective Service activities beginning in 1936 and extending to the present time¹. General Hershey throughout this period has given encouragement and assistance along these lines, to the staff of his agency, the Selective Service System, with offices in each of the 3,000 and more local counties in the various States of the United States. His approach has been, that all significant information on the past and current operations of the System should be preserved for use in connection with future programs of selective military manpower procurement.

It seems to the author of the present article that this archival work of Selective Service probably compares rather favorably with similar activity in Greece relative to the raising and maintaining of armed forces. The basis for this evaluation is twofold—one civilian, the other military. On the civilian side, the sources are Professors Demetrios Kalitsounakis and Sotiris Agapitidis, Greek Economists, who have kept the author apprised of such developments since 1947 when he was a member of the American Mission for Aid to Greece and Turkey. His contacts in similar regard in a military connection, began in 1951 when Colonels Apostolos

1. 1969.

Yannakakos, George Tsoukas, Constantinos Columvas and Erikos Levis of the Greek Army were in American analyzing the operation of the System at its National Headquarters in Washington, D.C.²

GENERAL COVERAGE OF PUBLISHED ARCHIVES

The effort of Selective Service in the maintenance and application of archival data on selective military service, has covered the subject both in breadth and depth. First, it has caused them to pertain to voluminous unpublished as well as published materials on compulsory armed duty. Second, such information deals with colonial in addition to national programs of this nature. Also, they are concerned with operating, planning, training and reporting; are historical and statistical; and are theoretical and pragmatic. Thus they are comprehensive in scope.

It will be recalled that before there was a United States there were thirteen colonies. Each of these units had to fend for itself more or less. In consequence, each had a well-developed universal military service program with some tendency toward selectivity. Both published and unpublished data give archival coverage to these early operations of conscription for armed forces.

Once the United States was established, each colony became a state and continued its selective service along the lines of a somewhat universally-obligated militia. States that came into being subsequently tended to copy this approach. In general, however, none of the state programs did much in the way of operating.

After colonial days the real American operation of selective military manpower procurement awaited the two national efforts of the Civil or States' War of 1861-65. The Confederacy or Southern part of the Nation began a draft or compulsory operation for service in its armed forces, in 1862; the Union or Northern side, in 1863.

At the end of this war, the country saw no similar program until World War I. The national operation of the First World War was carried on in 1917 and 1918.

The next activity along such lines was not until World War II. It ran from late 1940 into early 1947. Selective Service was then in-operati-

2. In these and related connections, reference is made to my article, «Some Economic Aspects of Selective Military Service», *Honoris Causa Volume for Prof. Dem. E. Kalitsounakis, Economy Ant Society*, pp. 261-271, Greek Association of Economic Sciences, Athens, 1961.

ve for about fifteen months, whereupon it was reinstated in mid-1948 and has continued ever since through both the Korean and Viet-Nam conflicts.

The archives of Selective Service cover the preservation of the knowledge and methods of all these several programs. They are available currently for study and are protected against the time in the days ahead when the experiences they portray, may serve as lessons on what to use and what not to use for successful operation³.

THE COLONIAL PERIOD

Each of the thirteen so-called original colonies kept up its own archives on compulsory military service during the time before it was a state of the United States⁴. Once it became such state it continued to maintain these data. It still does to this day.

Just after the Second World War, however, the Research and Statistics Division of National Headquarters, Selective Service, made a special analysis and compilation of all of these early colonial laws. In fact, this legislation was reproduced in exact facsimile for the original documents.

Once this work of analysis and compilation was completed, the Director of Selective Service had it published in monographic form during 1947. The title of the publication is *Selective Service Special Monograph No. 1, Backgrounds of Selective Service, Volume II, Parts 1-14*. Part 1 deals with the analysis of the 109 legislative enactments on compulsory military service—most of them universal in scope—of the thirteen colonies from 1607 through 1789. Parts 2-14, one for each colony, are facsimile presentations of the laws so enacted.

THE CIVIL OR STATES' WAR

The period of this war, 1861-65, witnessed the first selective military service program of a national nature. True, there had been some movement toward such an operation during the War of 1812 and the Mexican War but this did not lead to any compulsory activity.

3. See *Selective Service Special Monograph No. 1, Vol. I, entitled Backgrounds of Selective Service* (Washington, 1947).

4. Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina and Virginia.

In the Civil or States' War, however, there were two military draft programs national in scope. One of these began in the South or the Confederacy during 1862; the other in the North or the Union in 1863. The Southern program stemmed from the Confederate Conscription Act of 1862; the Northern, from the Federal Enrollment Act of 1863.

The archives both published and unpublished are rather scanty with reference to the Confederate operation. They may be readily approached through this publication, however: Moore, Albert Burton, *Conscription and Conflict in the Confederacy* (MacMillan: 1924).

This book of Moore's is an unofficial document, of course. It is nevertheless a most careful work. It is comprehensive, thorough and convenient to use.

On the other hand, the archival presentation of published materials on the Union side is official. It is the *Final Report of the Provost Marshall General* (Washington: 1866). Over and above this major official publication, there is a rather great amount of published material of unofficial status.

In the realm of publications also, soon to be available are legislative histories of both the Confederate and the Federal laws. These archival documents will add greatly to the official ones already on hand.

Unpublished archives official as well as unofficial, are also plentiful for the military manpower procurement activities of the North in the Civil War.

WORLD WAR I

By the time the United States was involved in this worldwide conflict during the years of 1917 and 1918, archival developments in this country were at a much more advanced stage. Consequently, the archives for the national selective military service program of America's participation in that war, are even more abundant and better cared for than those for any previous such operation. This is the situation from any standpoint published or unpublished; official or unofficial; operating planning or reporting.

As to official publications of archival materials on the subjects of military manpower procurement, the first and foremost issuances were of course the Reports of the Provost Marshal General on the Operation of the Selective Service System. These were published by the United States Government Printing Office in Washington, D.C., over the period 1917-1919. Secondary though also major publications of official nature, were

Selective Service Rules, Regulations and Instructions by the same office for the same period.

Another rather significant published archive which will be issued in the near future is a legislative history of the Selective Service Law of 1917. Important in itself, it adds to that statute by including congressional intent in regard to that statute, and court interpretations of its provisions.

On the official but unpublished side, key data are *Circular Letters and Telegrams of the Selective Service Organization, 1917-1919*. These documents mimeographed as the program of the First World War went on, comprise two volumes.

THE SECOND WORLD WAR

World War II hostilities in which the United States was involved, extended from December 1941 until September 1945, as will as be recalled. However, the American selective military service program for the period began as early as September 1940 and was not terminated until March 1947. In other words, the nationwide agency for this operation, which agency was the Selective Service System, was in existence for the entire time of six and one-half years from late 1941 through early 1947.

During the 14 months before hostilities and the whole 46 months of hostilities, Selective Service was extremely occupied with its program of military manpower procurement. Once the almost four years of war ended, though, the System had an opportunity to give attention to the compilation, organization, care and presentation of its archives. It conceived of these materials as being most valuable in the guidance of future operations of similar nature.

With the encouragement of President Harry S. Truman who had a strong interest for all of the Executive Branch of the Federal Government along similar lines, and the guiding hand of General Lewis B. Hershey who had by then been with Selective Service for more than 10 years, archival work assumed most vigorous proportions both as to quality and quantity of production⁵.

One index of the System's activities for the post-war as well as the pre-war and war periods, is its publication of its archives. Just as vast

5. General Hershey first became associated with Selective Service matters in September of 1936 when he began activities with the War and Navy Departments, Joint Army and Navy Committee on Selective Service.

in both depth and breadth is its maintenance of unpublished materials. With respect to publications, there follows a list of the major official ones :

REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF SELECTIVE SERVICE

Title	Issuance	Coverage
Selective Service in Peacetime	1942	1940-41
Selective Service in Wartime	1943	1941-42
Selective Service as the Tide of War Turns	1945	1943-44
Selective Service and Victory	1948	1944-47

MONOGRAPHS OF THE DIRECTOR OF SELECTIVE SERVICE

No.	Title	Divisions	Insuance	Coverage
1	Backgrounds of Sel. Serv. Vol. I		1947	1940-47
1	Backgrounds of Sel. Serv. Vol. II, Pt. 1, General Information		1947	1940-57
1	Backgrounds of Sel. Serv. Pt. 2, Connecticut Enactments		1947	1940-47
1	Backgrounds of Sel. Serv. Pt. 3, Delaware		1947	1940-47
1	Backgrounds of Sel. Serv. Pt. 4, Georgia		1947	1940-47
1	Backgrounds of Sel. Serv. Pt. 5, Maryland		1947	1940-47
1	Backgrounds of Sel. Serv. Pt. 6, Massachusetts		1947	1940-47
1	Backgrounds of Sel. Serv. Pt. 7, New Hampshire		1947	1940-47
1	Backgrounds of Sel. Serv. Pt. 8, New Jersey		1947	1940-47
1	Backgrounds of Sel. Serv. Pt. 9, New York		1947	1940-47
1	Backgrounds of Sel. Serv. Pt. 10, North Carolina		1947	1940-47
1	Backgrounds of Sel. Serv. Pt. 11, Pennsylvania		1947	1940-47
1	Backgrounds of Sel. Serv. Pt. 12, Rhode Island		1947	1940-47
1	Backgrounds of Sel. Serv. Pt. 13, South Carolina		1947	1940-47
1	Backgrounds of Sel. Serv. Pt. 14, Virginia		1947	1940-47
2	The Selective Service Act Vol. I, Chapters I-IX		1954	1940-47
2	The Selective Service Act Vol. II, Chapters X-XXIV		1954	1940-47
2	The Selective Service Act Vol. III, Appendices A-B		1954	1940-47
2	The Selective Service Act Vol. IV, Appendices B-D		1954	1940-47
2	The Selective Service Act Vol. V, Appendices E-F		1954	1940-47
3	Organization and Administration Vol. I, Text		1951	1940-47
3	Organization and Administration Vol. II, Appendices A-I		1951	1940-47
4	Registration		1945	1940-45
5	The Classification Process Vol. I, Text & Appendix A		1950	1940-47
5	The Classification Process Vol. II, Appendices B-F		1950	1940-47
5	The Classification Process Vol. III, Appendices G-H		1950	1940-47
6	Industrial Deferment Vol. I, Text		1947	1940-47
6	Industrial Deferment Vol. II, Appendices A-E		1947	1940-47
6	Industrial Deferment Vol. III, Appendices F-E		1947	1940-47
7	Agricultural Deferment		1947	1940-47
8	Dependency Deferment		1947	1940-47
9	Age in the Selective Service Process		1946	1940-46

10	Special Groups	Vol. I, Text	1953	1940-47
10	Special Groups	Vol. II, Appendices A-G	1953	1940-47
11	Conscientious Objection	Vol. I, Text	1950	1940-47
11	Conscientious Objection	Vol. II, Appendices A-G	1950	1940-47
12	Quotas, Calls, and Ind.	Vol. I, Text & Appendices A-E	1948	1940-47
12	Quotas, Calls, and Ind.	Vol. II, Appendices F-H	1948	1940-47
13	Reemployment & Selective Service	Vol. I, Text & Append. A-C	1949	1940-47
13	Reemployment & Select. Service	Vol. I, Text. & Appendices D-H	1949	1940-47
14	Enforcement of the Selective Service Law		1950	1940-47
15	Physical Examination of Selec- tive Service Registrants	Vol. I, Text & Appendices A-C	1947	1940-46
15	Physical Examination of Selective Service Registrants	Vol. II, Appendices D-E	1947	1940-46
15	Physical Examination of Selective Service Registrants	Vol. III, Appendices F	1947	1940-46
16	Problems of Selective Service	Vol. I, Text	1952	1940-47
16	Problems of Selective Service	Vol. II, Appendices A-C	1952	1940-47
16	Problems of Selective Service	Vol. III, Appendices D-I	1952	1940-47
17	The Operation of Selective Service	Vol. I, Text, Appendices A-B	1955	1940-47
17	The Operation of Selective Service	Vol. II, Appendices C-I	1955	1940-47
18	Evaluation of the Selective Service Program	Vol. I, Text	1946	1940-47
18	Evaluation of the Selective Service Program	Vol. II, Appendices A-C	1956	1940-47
18	Evaluation of the Selective Service Program	Vol. III, Appendices D-F	1956	1940-47

OPERATIONAL EMPHASIS OF WWII ARCHIVES

The implications of these archival publications for later selective military service operations is indicated particularly by the titles of the monographs. A very decided majority of such titles deal with separate processes of the entire operation. A brief attempt will be made to explain this.

«In general, the major processes of the American system for selective military training ... are six in number. These six are : (1) registration; (2) classification, whose result it selection; (3) appeal, from classification; (4) examination; (5) induction or assignment for service; and (6) delinquency under or violation of the law back of the processes.

* * *

Among the six processes *registration* is the first from the standpoint of operational occurrence. Briefly, it is the official act of a person's becoming initially recorded, registered or enrolled under the basic law. This recording is in accurate written description with Selective Service for future action by the System.

The second process, *classification*, is the action of a Selective Service local or appeal board or of the President in placing a registrant in one of the System's groups or specific classes. These classes designate his status with respect to liability and availability for military training and service. Such classification is on the basis of information provided by the registrant and other authorized individuals and other information known to the board. In this process occurs selection as available for active duty with the armed forces or as temporarily deferred from such duty. The main classes utilized are I, available for service; II, occupationally, including educationally, deferred therefrom; III, deferred for dependency reasons; IV, deferred on other grounds principally the completion of service or the disqualification for it; and V, relief from liability for duty because of age.

The *appeal* process is in a way closely associated with classification. It is the request of the registrant or other authorized person, as a right, to an appeal board or the President, respectively, for classification anew after he has already been classified by his local or appeal board. Any classification—an administrative action under American selective service—in final subject to appeal.

Examination is conducted by local board and armed forces physicians, dentists and allied specialists. It is to determine an available registrant's physical, mental, moral, etc., qualifications in the field of acceptability for military training and service.

Induction or assignment for armed duty is the entering upon such service by an available registrant who has been found acceptable upon examination. In the United States assignment is more properly applied to entering upon civilian work contributing to the maintenance of the national health, safety or interest in lieu of military duty. It occurs for an available and acceptable registrant who is conscientiously opposed to both combat and non-combat service with the armed forces because of religious training and belief.

Delinquency or violation is the failure of a registrant, or person who

must register, to perform any duty required under the basic statutes and regulations of Selective Service⁶.

THE OFFICE OF SELECTIVE SERVICE RECORDS

The plethora of archives and archival work both published and unpublished, and unofficial as well as official, for World War II has carried over into selective military service matters since that time. For instance, that impetus was still apparent during the 15 months in 1948 and 1949 when no Selective Service legislation was in effect.

But though no statute relative to the operations of the System was in existence, there was an organization in being whose primary legal responsibility was archival. It was termed the Office of Selective Service Records and its purpose under the law was «preserving the knowledge and methods of Selective Service»⁷. Its responsibility was maintaining and servicing the archives on selective military service of the Second World War and previous periods when similar programs were in operation.

In addition, the Office of Selective Service accomplished some archival tasks indigenous to its own activities. One of these—an official publication—was the *Report of the Director of the Office of Selective Service-Records* (Washington : 1950). This Director by the way, was General Lewis B. Hershey.

SELECTIVE SERVICE BEGINNING IN 1948

After 15 months without a selective military service statute, the United States found it could not maintain its Armed Forces at authorized strength unless a program of this nature was in operation. So at the request of the President the American Congress enacted the Selective Service Act of 1948. This statute is still in effect⁸, though it was amended in 1951 and its title changed to Universal Military Training and Service Act. It was further amended in 1967 and its title then became the Military Selective Service Act of 1967.

Thus far, these 21 years and more of selective military service have been an energetic continuation of the System's archival production. Regardless of the stresses of the Korean War, the Berlin Build-up, the

6. Kalitsunakis, op. cit., pp. 262-263.

7. Public Law 26, 80th Congress (S. 918).

8. 1969.

Cuban Crisis or the Viet-Nam War, this has been the rather constant approach of Selective Service to its archives. From the Standpoint of official major publications, for instance, the following of archival nature have been released to date for this 21-year period :

Title	Issuance	Coverage*
Selective Service Under the 1948 Act	1951	1948-50
Selective Service Under the 1948 Act Extended	1953	1950-51
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1952	1951
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1953	1952
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1954	1953
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1955	1954
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1956	1955
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1957	1956
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1958	1957
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1959	1958
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1960	1959
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1961	1960
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1962	1961
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1963	1962
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1964	1963
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1965	1964
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1966	1965
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1967	1966
Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1968	1967
Semi-Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1968 Last 1/2	1967
Semi-Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1968 First 1/2	1968
Semi-Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1969 Last 1/2	1968
Semi-Annual Report of the Director of Selective Service	1969 First 1/2	1969
Outline of Historical Background of Selective Service and Chronology		Biblical Times 1965 to June 30, 1965

* Annual Reports for 1951-1967 are for Fiscal Year, i.e., July 1 of one year to June 30 of the next.

Over and above these three official legislative histories—one for each statute of the current period—are under preparation and will eventually be published.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

As indicated, the United States has throughout its colonial and national history, had five periods of selective military service. Each of these time-spans has engendered archival materials. America has

preserved these archives and made them available in published and unpublished form and from official and unofficial sources for historical, research and related purposes. Not the least of their use over the years, however, has been their analysis in the planning and operation of selective military service. As the future unfolds, the Selective Service System, the national agency presently charged with such program will bend every effort to preserve and apply these valuable archives.