

White House Silence on Draft Brings Chaos Among Grads

By RICHARD ANTHONY
Collegiate Press Service

WASHINGTON (CPS)—Last fall, education officials were saying that chaos would result if President Johnson didn't act to clear up the uncertainties in the draft situation by the first of this year.

The first has come and gone, the White House is still silent on the draft, and graduate schools and potential grad students are seeing the first signs of the chaos that was predicted.

There are two major questions that still must be decided regarding the draft: the first is, how are the actual draftees to be selected from the pool of draft-eligible men; the second is, what academic fields, if any, are to be designated as providing draft deferments for those doing graduate work in them.

Under the terms of the 1967 draft law, the National Security Council actually has the power to decide the second question. The council includes high officials such as the vice-president and the secretary of state, as well as the President. In fact, though, the President will undoubtedly make the final decision on both questions concerning the draft, if any decisions are made).

Nothing Certain

Graduate school deans have been predicting that their incoming classes next fall would be made up primarily of veterans and women, since they assumed most graduating male seniors would be drafted. This prediction may turn out to be true, but at this point there's no way of knowing, because the President hasn't yet said whom he's going to draft.

Therefore, graduate schools which are beginning to make decisions on applicants can't tell whether or not the students they accept this spring will be coming in the fall.

A similar problem exists for students. College seniors and first-year grad students can't plan for future study until the government's draft policies are cleared up.

At this point any speculation about what the White House will do must be very tentative, because there really is no way of knowing. Education officials with close contacts in government predicted action by the President before Christmas, and nothing came of it. There are, however, a few observations that can be made.

It appears that the President (or, in this case, the President and other members of the National Security Council) will not grant deferments to all grad students in the natural sciences, math and engineering.

A special government committee set up to study the deferment question last year recommended deferments of this kind. Although the White House has not said anything publicly about a decision, education officials have been told privately that the President has rejected the committee's recommendations.

Deferments Unknown

Whether he and the council will designate certain narrowly defined fields as draft-deferrable is at this point unknown.

On the question of how draftees will be chosen, there is only one thing that can be said with a relative degree of certainty at this point — the White House will do something. If it doesn't, and if Congress also fails to act, then the traditional Selective Service method of drafting the oldest eligible male first will be followed, meaning that the Army will be full of college graduates.

To make sure that there is some diversity in the ages of the draftees, the President will have to take action. What he will do, and when, however, is not clear at this point.

John Morse, an official of the American Council of Education (ACE), believes the President will set up seven age groups, one for each year from 19 to 25, and then order draft boards to choose a

certain percentage of each group for service. Presumably about a third of draft-eligible college men would be taken under such a system, since draft needs for the coming year are anticipated at about a third of the total draft-eligible pool.

Whether Morse's prediction is borne out or not, it is safe to say that not all draft-eligible college graduates will be drafted. Unfortunately there is no way of predicting which of them will be taken. Priority may be given to those with birthdays early in the year, as some have suggested, but then again it may not.

Morse and other education officials in Washington are now concentrating their efforts on getting Congress to clear up the draft situation. Although there is not much an individual student can do to get action from the White House, students can assist in pushing for Congressional action by writing to Senators and Representatives.

Student Traffic Appeals Denied

Two appeals from traffic court were denied in student court Friday.

Both defendants were issued citations for parking in a disabled persons' parking space.

One defendant pleaded guilty, but felt the \$10 fine was too much for him to pay. He also felt he lacked an understanding of the law concerning disabled person's parking places.

Disabled persons are assigned individually to a certain parking space. A passenger in the defendant's car was blind so he thought he had grounds to use a disabled person's parking space behind the EMU. The traffic code cites illegal parking in these places as a serious violation.

The other defendant was parked in the lot east of the Science building. He entered a plea of guilty, but thought he had been charged an excessive fine for only being parked for five minutes.

He did not see the officer writing the citation. The court replied that the officer had no idea of the length of time the

car had been there. If the person assigned to the place had arrived he would have been inconvenienced by the defendant's car.

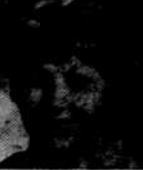
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Council Names IFC Candidates

Nominations for Interfraternity Council officers were made in a council meeting Wednesday night.

Sole candidate for IFC president named during the meeting of fraternity presidents was Eddie Ellis of Beta Theta Pi.

Candidates for executive vice president are Les DeWitt of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Gary Gillian of Delta Tau Delta.

Jack Mullin of Theta Chi, Steve Rudd of Pi Kappa Alpha, George Weston of Chi Phi and Jim Miller of Sigma Alpha Epsilon are candidates for tribunal chairman.

Secretary-treasurer candidate is George Neilson of Chi Phi.

Nominations for the positions will be open until the next meeting of IFC Council on February 7.

In other business IFC president Bill Piche announced that Bob Duncan, candidate for U.S. Senate, will speak at the University as a guest of the IFC January 30.

The council also discussed the possibility of a new interpretation by President Flemming of the State Board of Higher Education's policy of admission selection. Flemming states that fraternities must be free from the nationals in determining the percentage of members needed in admission of new members.

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