



# The REGISTER

## *Selective Service System*

THE REGISTER

September/October 2000

## Selective Service Celebrates 60th Anniversary

Happy Anniversary to the Selective Service System. The Agency celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in September.

The tradition of military conscription in America predates the Revolution, but it wasn't until the months prior to the U.S. entering World War II that the military draft mechanism was placed in the hands of a civilian agency. In response to increased world tension, President Franklin Roosevelt signed the Selective Training and Service Act on Sept. 16, 1940, creating the nation's first peacetime draft. The Selective Service System was able to fill wartime manpower needs smoothly and rapidly after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

At the end of the war the draft law was allowed to expire, but it was reenacted less than two years later to maintain necessary military manpower levels as a result of the Cold War. From 1948 until 1973, during both peacetime and periods of conflict, men were drafted to fill vacancies in the armed forces that could not be filled through voluntary means. Induction authority expired in 1973, but the Agency remained in existence in a "standby" posture to support the all-volunteer force in case an emergency should make it necessary for Congress to authorize a resumption of inductions.

Registration was suspended in 1975 and the Agency entered into a "deep standby" posture. In July 1980, as a result of the Soviet Union's invasion of Afghanistan and several studies and exercises indicating reduced military readiness, President Jimmy Carter revitalized the Agency and reinstated the registration requirement.

Presently, male U.S. citizens, and male immigrants living in the U.S., who are 18 through 25, are required to register with Selective Service. As of Aug. 16, 2000, more than 43,257,793 young men have registered with the Selective Service System since registration was resumed.



*President Roosevelt signs the Selective Training and Service Act on Sept. 16, 1940, establishing the first peacetime draft and creating the Selective Service System.*

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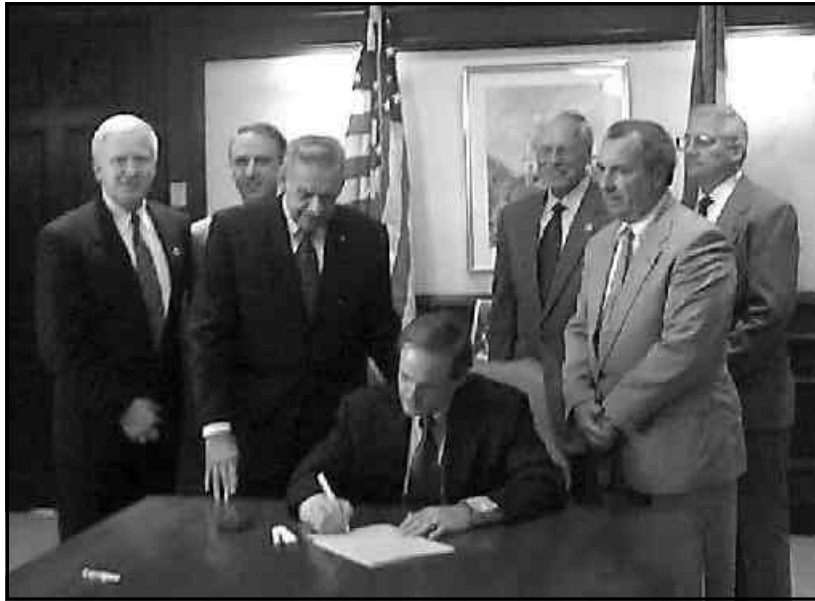
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# Delaware Automatic Registration Legislation

On Aug. 4, 2000, Delaware Gov. Thomas R. Carper signed into law a provision that will automatically register young men, 18 through 25 years old, with the Selective Service System when they apply for a driver's license or renewal. The provision does not affect females or men younger than 18 or older than 25 years old. Sen. J. Dallas Winslow authored the bill and Rep. Richard C. Cathcart sponsored it in the House. Winslow stated, "We are proud to serve as a role model for other states in this type of



*As Gov. Carper signs Delaware DMV legislation, Selective Service officials look on. Standing left to right: Lt. Col. Glen Ford, Region I Director; Chief Warrant Officer 3 James DiDonato, Delaware Detachment IDE; Selective Service System Director, Gil Coronado; retired Brig. Gen. William J. Tansey, ARNG, Delaware State Director; State Rep. Cathcart; and Lt. Col. Frederic Kenney, Detachment IDE Commander.*

legislation." He explained that Delaware, the "First State", is now the first state in the nation to automatically register a young man when he applies for a driver's license or renewal. He went on to explain that a number of states throughout the country have pending legislation requiring registration as a prerequisite for obtaining a driver's license or renewal. Oklahoma recently passed such legislation.

Selective Service System Director, Gil Coronado, was present at the bill signing ceremony along with Cathcart, Mr. Bill Tansey, Delaware State Director, and LTC Glen Ford, the Region I Director for the Agency. Cathcart

said, "We feel it important to ensure that the young men in Delaware maintain eligibility for state and federal educational monies as well as federal jobs."

Coronado believes that the new law will universally spur Delaware men to register with Selective Service in accordance with the Federal Military Selective Service Act. He pointed out that 83 percent of young Delaware men reaching age 20 have complied with the federal registration requirement, which places the state in the top half of all states with regard to compliance. However, the 17 percent who have not registered are ineligible to receive valuable federal and state benefits that are tied to the registration requirement. For example, a young man who is not registered with the Selective Service is ineligible for federal and state student loans and most federal jobs. Registration-age immigrant men who fail to register are denied U.S. citizenship. By publicizing the registration requirement through the driver's license process, Delaware is protecting public benefits for its citizens, Coronado said.

Coronado added that this legislation is vital to improving national security. "Selective Service registration compliance has been declining in recent years and our energies have focused on reminding men to register on time," Coronado said. "The problem has been that men are simply not aware that they have a civic and legal obligation to register at age 18. Delaware's law, the first of its kind in the nation, should bring registration compliance in Delaware closer to 100 percent and set the example for other states to follow."

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*The Register welcomes any news of interest to the Selective Service System employees. Deadline is the 20th of the month, 1 month prior to publication.*

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*Viewpoints herein do not represent official policy.*



## Early Submission

Verona King, Manager, Human Resources Division at National Headquarters assisted her son, Kelvin King, Jr., submit his registration information to the Selective Service System during a recent visit to her office.

As a result of the Agency's Early Submission program, Kelvin, who turns 18 in November, was able to submit his information on-line although he was more than the required 30 days away from his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Early Submission allows a young man who is at least 17 years old to submit information to the Selective Service. The Agency keeps his information on file and processes it automatically later in the year, when the man is within 30 days of reaching his 18th birthday. An acknowledgment card is mailed to the man when his registration is processed.

Kelvin, who will be starting his freshman year at Norfolk State University this fall, says he is happy that there is now one less requirement he will have to worry about this school year.



*Verona King (left) and her son Kelvin King, Jr.*

## Office of Operations Welcomes New Employees

Gus Jakowitsch and Mary Bell join the Office of Operations at National Headquarters (NHQ) as new Program Analysts for the Training Division. Both Jakowitsch and Bell bring a myriad of talent to the Training Division.

Jakowitsch, who joined the Agency in June, served as an Air Reserve Technician in Mobility Training at Andrews AFB, Maryland. He continues to serve in this capacity on the weekends as a reservist.

Bell, who joined the Training Division in July, is a long time member of the Selective Service System. Her first position with the Agency was as a Contact Representative for the Data Management Center in North Chicago, Ill. She then moved on to serve as the Readiness and Training Coordinator for Region I Headquarters, also located in North Chicago. She served in this capacity until she joined the Training Division.

As Program Analysts in the Training Division, Jakowitsch and Bell will produce training guides, continuation training packages, and accomplish a multitude of training-related projects.



*Gus Jakowitsch*



*Mary Bell*



# NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

## Region I News

### State Senator Receives Award

Director Gil Coronado presented Delaware State Senator, Dallas Winslow, with the Honored Patriot Award. Winslow authored the Delaware Legislation that automatically registers young men with the Selective Service System when they apply for a state driver's license (see story on page 2).



*State Senator Dallas Winslow (left) receives the Honored Patriot Award from Director Gil Coronado.*

## Region II News

### New Texas Deputy State Director

Louis R. Rocco was appointed the new Deputy State Director for Texas on July 11, 2000, in San Antonio. He replaces Alfonso T. Carmona.

Rocco is a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, honored for his actions in Vietnam on May 24, 1970. Rocco was a warrant officer when he volunteered to accompany a medical evacuation team on an urgent mission to evacuate eight critically wounded Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) personnel. The helicopter he was in came under intense enemy automatic weapons fire as it approached the landing zone. Disregarding his own safety, Rocco identified and placed accurate suppressive fire on the enemy positions as the aircraft descended toward the landing zone.

Sustaining major damage from the enemy fire, the aircraft was forced to land, causing Rocco to sustain a fractured wrist, hip, and a severely bruised back. Ignoring his injuries, he extracted the survivors from the burning wreckage, sustaining burns to his own body.

Despite intense enemy fire, Rocco carried each unconscious man across approximately 20 meters (almost 22 yards) of exposed terrain to the ARVN perimeter. On each trip, his severely burned hands and broken wrist caused him excruciating pain, but the lives of the unconscious crash survivors were more important to him than his personal discomfort. He continued his rescue efforts. Once inside the friendly position, Rocco helped administer first aid to his wounded comrades until his wounds and burns caused him to collapse and lose consciousness.

His bravery under fire and intense devotion to duty were directly responsible for saving three of his fellow soldiers from certain death.

Outgoing Deputy Carmona, who attended the Appointment Ceremony, served with distinction as the Agency's first Texas Deputy State Director for two years and was presented with the Selective Service Meritorious Service Award by Director Gil Coronado.



*Left to right: Mr. Alfonso T. Carmona, outgoing Texas Deputy State Director; Director Gil Coronado; Mr. Louis R. Rocco, newly appointed Texas Deputy State Director; and Col. Keith Scragg, Region II Director.*

## Initial Board Member Training

Barbara W. White, National Appeal Board Member from Texas, recently attended Initial Board Member Training in Georgia with 28 Local Board Members from across the Southeast. White is the Dean of the School of Social Work at the University of Texas at Austin. "The important work of the Selective Service System continues to be vital to our nation's security," said White. "I am proud to have the opportunity to give service and support to this cause."



*Left to right: Col. Bill Thomas, Detachment Commander 2GA; Ms. Barbara W. White, National Appeal Board Member; Lt. Col. Debra Rondem, Detachment Commander 2-7GA; and retired Col. Roy J. Yelton, USAFR, Georgia State Director.*

## Arkansas Governor Acknowledged

On June 2, 2000, Director Gil Coronado presented Gov. Mike Huckabee of Arkansas with the Selective Service System's Meritorious Service Award with Bronze Medal. Huckabee was instrumental in the passage of state legislation supporting Selective Service registration. As a result, registration compliance rates in Arkansas have increased significantly.



*Left to right: Director Gil Coronado, Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, and Col. Keith Scragg, Region II Director.*

## Selective Service Day Proclaimed in Puerto Rico

The Mayor of Ponce, P.R., Rafael Cordero-Santiago, signed a proclamation declaring June as Selective Service System month in the city. Ponce is the second largest city in Puerto Rico.



*Left to right: Maj. Pelayo Lorie-Velasco, Detachment Commander 2PR, Rafael Cordero-Santiago, Mayor of Ponce, and Maj. Mario Morales, 2PR.*

## Region III News

### New Region III Director

Lt. Col. Lyle A. Wilkes has been named Director of Selective Service System Region III, headquartered in Denver, Colo. His appointment was effective June 1, 2000.

Region III is composed of 21 western states, including Alaska and Hawaii, plus Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands. As Director of Region III, Wilkes is responsible for providing the administrative, personnel, and logistical oversight for the Region; the Region's State Directors, and the Region's Reserve Force Officers. He will also manage the Agency's activities within the region, coordinate readiness training, and process appointments for local, district, and appeal boards.

Wilkes originally joined the Selective Service System in 1985 as a Reserve Force Officer (RFO) assigned to Indiana's Detachment 3-3. He served in this capacity until 1991 when he became Region I's Operations Officer. While at Region I, Wilkes was responsible for updating and maintaining Mobilization Plans for 144 Area Offices. He was also responsible for the mobilization readiness training of 18 State Directors, 33 RFO Commanders, 162 RFOs, and 581 Recruiter Augmentees.



*Lyle Wilkes*

In 1997, Wilkes was appointed Director of the Data Management Center where he was responsible for the receipt, control, and processing of all data related to the Registration and Compliance Systems for the Agency.

Throughout his career with the Agency, Wilkes has received several awards, including the Meritorious Service Award with Bronze Medal and the Exceptional Service Award with Silver Medal.

Wilkes graduated from the University of North Alabama in 1977, and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Army's Armor Branch. He was promoted to lieutenant colonel in 1996. He has three children and in his spare time enjoys fishing, bowling, camping, and collecting John Wayne movies and memorabilia.

## Registrar Profile :

### Mel Glover

Students at Stevens High School in Rapid City, S.D., are fortunate to have Mel Glover in their school. Not only is Glover the school guidance counselor, he has also been a Selective Service Registrar since 1997. He is dedicated to his students and gets very involved with helping them, especially when it is time for them to qualify for financial assistance for college.

Glover says he enjoys being a Registrar because it provides a service to his students. "The students are very responsible; once they know about the registration requirement, they register," he said. "The ease and speed of registering and verifying a registration via the Internet, just makes being a Selective Service Registrar that much easier."



*Mel Glover (left), with Chief Warrant Officer 4 Darla Crown, South Dakota RFO.*



# Happenings at Headquarters

## War College Visit

On May 10, 2000, students from the U.S. Army War College (USAWC) visited the Selective Service System National Headquarters. The Agency welcomed 11 USAWC students and their escort, Senior Foreign Service Officer David C. Bennett.

The United States Army War College is located in Carlisle, Pa., and the annual pilgrimage to this area is an integral part of the College's curriculum and a key element in its mission to develop future leaders of the U.S. Army, the nation, and the world. Each spring, USAWC students visit the Nation's Capital to receive briefings from various governmental and private agencies and institutions involved in activities related to the national security interests of the United States. The students visit selected sites in small groups, usually no more than 20 students each.

For the past 19 years the Selective Service System (SSS) has hosted a contingent of students who are briefed on the Agency's role as the Nation's third tier of defense. The Agency briefing is designed to provide an overview of Agency operations and enhance the students' understanding of Selective Service.

In addition to American military personnel, the SSS also played host to students from other parts of the world. Military personnel from Ghana in West Africa and Chile in



*Director Gil Coronado (right), with two War College students*

South America were among those briefed this year. In the past, the Agency has hosted students from Japan, China, Guatemala, Slovenia, Croatia, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, and Italy. In 1994, officers from Russia and Poland were among those briefed.

## Public Service Recognition Week

The Selective Service System participated in Public Service Recognition Week activities on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. Celebrated the first Monday of May and continuing through the following Sunday since 1985, this annual event is held to honor the men and women who serve America as federal, state, and local government employees. Public employees in about 1,500 cities in the U.S. and abroad, celebrate Public Service Recognition Week. Activities across the country include festivals, open houses, parades, community clean-up days, and fund-raising events.

Selective Service displayed its exhibit on the Mall at the foot of Capitol Hill along with more than 100 federal civilian and military agencies. The well-attended event allowed Selective Service to educate the public about the Agency's responsibilities and capabilities, emphasize the importance of registration, and to answer questions from the public.



*Joyce Davis (left) and Salim Balbed (center) explain Selective Service Registration to a young man.*

# Mennonites Visit National Headquarters

On June 14th, Selective Service hosted one of the largest church denominations to ever visit the NHO and be welcomed by Director Gil Coronado. Over a dozen members of the Mennonite Conference (pictured right), an association of Mennonite communities from Pennsylvania, Indiana, Ohio, and Missouri, spent several hours in discussion with Lew Brodsky and Dick Flahavan of the Office of Public and Congressional Affairs, and Tom Hornada and Mary Lawson of the Office of Operations.



As Biblical Christian members of an historic peace church, they are conscientiously opposed to military service. Naturally, they were most interested in the Alternative Service Program and how it would operate during a draft. Their immediate concern was that their young men who might be called in a future draft have the opportunity to file "1-O" claims as Conscientious Objectors (COs). The Mennonites recognize that government is established to keep order in society; they respect civilian leaders, pay their taxes, obey the laws, and encourage their young men to register with Selective Service.

After a very fruitful session, all questions were answered and the Mennonites were most appreciative of the Agency's hospitality and interest in their views. It was pointed out by the Selective Service System officials attending that placing COs into alternative service is one-half of the Agency's statutory mission and remains a responsibility which Selective Service takes most seriously.



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