



The REGISTER

Selective Service System

THE REGISTER

May/June 2000

Director Gil Coronado Testifies on Capitol Hill



Pictured from left to right: Willie L. Blanding, Jr., Director Gil Coronado, and Lewis C. Brodsky.

Selective Service System Director Gil Coronado testified in March before the House VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee to defend the Agency's Fiscal Year 2001 budget request. The President's Budget proposes funding the Agency at \$24,480,000 in FY 2001.

Traditionally a very important annual appearance by the Director, this year's testimony seemed to generate an unusual amount of attention, evident by the attendance of many members of the subcommittee (8 out of the 13 members were in attendance).

The Director, accompanied by Deputy Director Willie L. Blanding, Jr., and Lewis C. Brodsky, Director of Public and Congressional Affairs, made a brief statement before facing questions from subcommittee members. The Director reported that compliance rates have continued to decline. The national compliance rate for men 18 to 25 years old is 88 percent for 1999. The compliance rate for draft-eligible men age 20 to 25 is 93 percent. This represents a 1 percent drop in each category from 1998. The Director explained that the low compliance rates are due to a lack of awareness across our Nation regarding the registration requirement.

The Director discussed several registration initiatives implemented in FY 1999 to counter the declining registration rates, such as telephonic registration, expanded operating hours for on-line registration, and "Early Submission," which permits 17-year-old men to submit registration information.

In response to a question from Rep. James T. Walsh (R-N.Y.), the Subcommittee Chairman, concerning other initiatives implemented by the Agency, the Director enthusiastically explained the new agreement between the Agency and the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). The agreement calls for the INS to revise their "Application to Adjust Permanent Resident Status" (Form I-485) to include a statement informing male immigrants that if they are between the ages of 18 and 25 years, their information will be shared with the Selective Service System for the purpose of registering them. "This has the potential over time to result in significant improvements in compliance rates," said the Director, "as we believe that immigrant men and high school dropouts form the largest segments of the male population failing to register."

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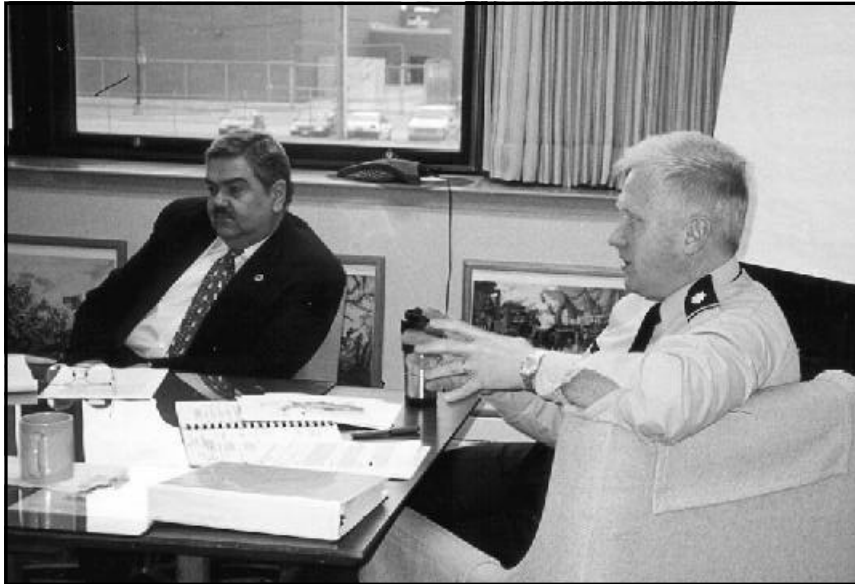
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Professional Development Course Training



Dennis Garcia, New York City State Director (left), and Lt. Col. Glen Ford, Region I Director, discuss policies during PDC training.

Last March, at the Selective Service System's three Regions, more than 69 State Directors (SDs) and Reserve Force Officers (RFOs) participated in a training program that included a new Professional Development Course (PDC).

The Agency's Office of Operations Training Division developed this course, streamlined from 32 to 12 hours, to be included in the second phase of a two-phase training program for newly appointed SDs and RFOs.

All SDs and RFOs are required to complete a two-phase initial training program within the first year



Capt. Christopher McCorkendale.

of their appointment to the Selective Service System. The first phase of the training program requires a review of materials about the Agency. The second phase requires the SDs and RFOs to participate in one and a half days of training to be conducted at their respective Region. During the PDC, participants are trained in the operations of their State Headquarters, Area Offices, Alternative Service Offices, and the Health Care Personnel Delivery System.

The Agency is pleased with the results of the first training sessions using the new PDC and plans another session at its Region I Headquarters in Illinois in July 2000. "Training for the State Directors and Reserve Force Officers

is continuous and comprehensive," says Col. Justo Gonzalez, Jr., Director of Operations, "but this initial training with the Professional Development Course, has proven successful in helping new State Directors and Reserve Force Officers quickly familiarize themselves with the Agency and their new responsibilities."



Lead Instructor, Lt. Col. Michael Doonan, USAFR prepares his lesson.

Reserve Force Officer Honored for Community Service

Lt. Col. Tony Libri, a Reserve Force Officer (RFO) assigned to the Selective Service System in Illinois, was recently honored for his years of community service to the town of Springfield.

Libri, who was featured in the 10th Anniversary edition of Springfield Magazine (pictured with his daughter Maria) has served the residents of Springfield for over 20 years, first as the WICS-TV Weekend Weatherman and currently as the Sangamon County Circuit Clerk.

It was in his position as County Circuit Clerk that Libri introduced and secured the passage of Thurmond-like legislation for Sangamon County, Ill. Passage of the legislation makes Selective Service registration a prerequisite for employment with the county. Libri was awarded the Selective Service Bronze Medal for his efforts.

An important part of Libri's life has always been his involvement in community service. As a member of over 10 community organizations, he averages almost 200 speeches a year.

Libri's desire to serve is not contained within the boundaries of Illinois. In 1997, Libri served in Bosnia and returned as one of Illinois' most decorated soldiers.



The heartbreaking hardship witnessed by Libri while in Bosnia, served to increase his dedication to the community and his belief in the importance of being a good citizen. He has passed these beliefs on to his daughter Maria, host of WRSP-TV's Fox Kids Club. She credits her father for inspiring her to never give up the quest to attain her dreams. This obviously has been good advice as both Libri and his daughter have become prominent personalities in their community.

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The **Register** welcomes any news of interest to the Selective Service System employees. Deadline is the 20th of the month, 2 months prior to publication.

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Viewpoints herein do not represent official policy.



NEWS FROM THE REGIONS

Region I News

Region I Participates in Educational Seminar



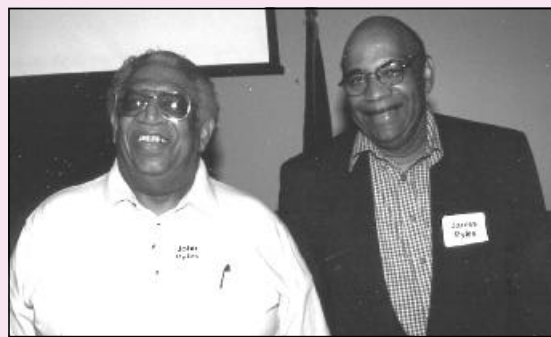
Brig. Gen. Billy R. Cooper (left) with Dr. Margaret G. Labat.

Region I participated in the Association for Career and Technical Education's (ACTE) National Policy Seminar held in Washington, D.C. Dr. Margaret G. Labat, Selective Service System State Director for the District of Columbia, Ms. Mary Hamrick, Region I Administrative Services Assistant, and Major Dianna Clevon, Executive Officer for Region I Headquarters, represented Selective Service System and Region I at the seminar.

In attendance were school administrators, teachers, and members of educational organizations. The seminar focused on educating association members on how to interface with Congress on policies affecting career and technical education.

Brig. Gen. Billy R. Cooper, Deputy Commanding General of U.S. Army Recruiting Command, who spoke at a breakfast hosted by the recruiting command, stopped by the Selective Service System booth and discussed ways in which the Selective Service System and his recruiters can work together.

Keeping it in the Family: Brothers Become Local Board Members



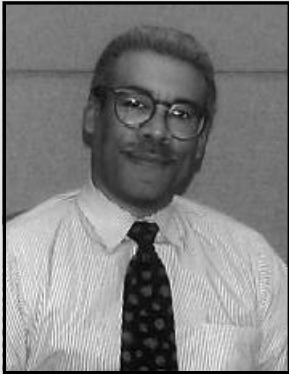
Brothers John (left) and James Pyles.

James and John Pyles, brothers from Indiana, were surprised to learn that they had both been nominated to serve as Selective Service System Local Board Members. It wasn't until they received Initial Board Member Training (IBMT) announcements that James and John realized they would become Board Members at the same time. James will serve with Local Board 9 and John with Local Board 6.

The Pyles were part of a 13-member class at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, on March 25-26, 2000. This training was not only special due to the simultaneous appointment of the Pyles brothers, but because as part of the IBMT events, Board Members were given a tour of Camp Atterbury, which included a visit to the Camp's Military Museum. Members were also allowed to watch as National Guard units qualified with their crew-served .50 caliber machine guns on the firing range.

The opportunity to observe the military training was the result of the close and cooperative relationship between the National Guard Unit and the Selective Service Reserve Detachments in Indiana. The detachments have conducted enhanced IBMT for several years now and appreciate the excellent facilities and support provided by Camp Atterbury.

Region I Welcomes New Employee



Robert Logan, Jr.

Robert Logan, Jr., joins the Selective Service System family as Region I's new Administrative Officer.

Logan brings with him a wealth of experience. His most recent position was as the Assistant Administrative Officer for the Peace Corps' Chicago Service Center. He has also worked in the corporate sector for companies such as General Electric, Kraft Foods, and Zacks Investments Research.

"I'm looking forward to the challenges of the job," says Logan. "The caliber of people I've encountered at Selective Service has been impressive."

Born in Greenwood, Miss., he now resides in Oak Park, Ill. He enjoys playing golf, reading, and spending time with his good friends.

Region II News

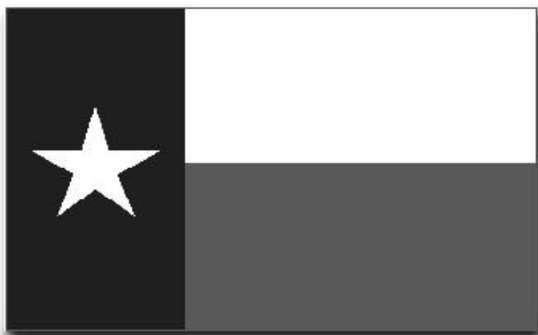
Director Coronado Travels to El Paso, Texas

During Armed Forces Week in El Paso, Texas, Director Gil Coronado participated in a live radio show with station KROD 600 to promote interest in the military and further emphasize the importance of Selective Service registration.

While in Texas, the Director also attended a ceremony to recognize Rep. Silvestre Reyes (D-Texas) for his outstanding support to the Armed Services and the Selective Service.



Left to right: Petty Officer 1st Class Oscar Sosa, Jr., Navy Seal Team 3, Director Gil Coronado, Rep. Silvestre Reyes (D-Texas), and Alfred Rascon, Inspector General for the Selective Service System.



Director Gil Coronado (left) and Rep. Silvestre Reyes.

Grandmother Registers Grandson

Colleen B. Scarlett, Georgia Local Board Member and former Region II employee, brought her grandson, Noah Morrissey, to the Region II Headquarters to register via the Internet.

Noah, a senior at Sequoyah High School, turned 18 on April 30. He is applying for the Georgia Hope Scholarship, which requires all 18-year-old men to be registered with the Selective Service System.



Left to right: Colleen B. Scarlett, Noah Morrissey (seated), Marian D. Kiely, Senior State Coordinator (West Team), and Bettie Ann Longstreet, Senior State Coordinator (East Team).

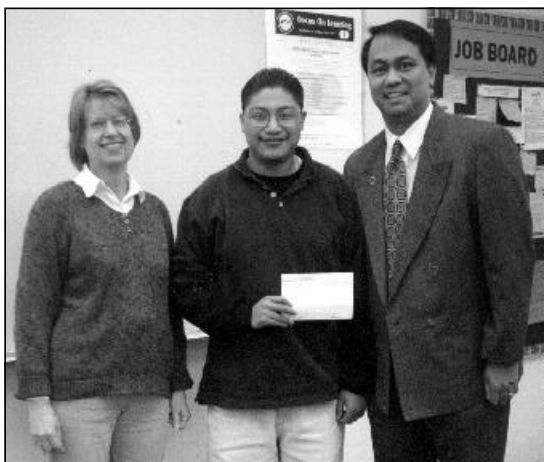
Region III News

Region III Says "Good-bye"

On March 9, 2000, Region III said "good-bye" to Lt. Col. Robert "Bob" Stacy. Stacy, the Executive Officer for the Region, was treated to a farewell dinner in his honor. He was joined by his family, Selective Service System Director, Gil Coronado, and members of the Region III staff.



Director Gil Coronado presents Stacy with the Legion of Merit Medal.



Left to right: Ms. Deanna Moore, a teacher at San Dieguito High School, Gonzalo Flores, student, and Capt. Ed. Cepe.

Reserve Force Officer Conducts "Mini-Blitz"

Capt. Ed Cepe, a Selective Service System Reserve Force Officer in California, conducted presentations on the importance of registering with the Selective Service System at several high schools in the San Diego School District.

While visiting the schools, Cepe helped several students register with Selective Service. The picture to the left was taken at San Dieguito High School and shows Cepe with one of the students he assisted.

Region III Gets New Detachment

The population of Nevada has increased to nearly two million in the last two years. This population boom seems to have been concentrated in Nevada's southern cities of Las Vegas and Henderson. It was for this reason that Region III Director, Sam Thiessen, decided that a new SSS detachment should be created for this area. Area Office 001, previously part of the National Guard Unit in Reno, was handed over to two Reserve Force Officers (RFOs) living in the Las Vegas area, Lt. Col. Benjamin Wright and Major Pamela Lill. Wright and Lill were previously assigned to Southern California detachments and had to travel to Los Angeles from Las Vegas each month.

For the renovation of the new office, which was the former drill site of the Naval Reserve Training Center on Sahara Avenue in Las Vegas, Wright and Lill solicited help from area high school Air Force ROTC students. Major Des Shook, Western High School's Air Force ROTC Cadet Commander, and three members of the Cadet Corps accepted the challenge. After a day of caulking, removing outlets, and painting walls, the cadets told Major Lill that it was more fun than work.



Pictured from left to right: Maj. Pamela Lill, USAFR, Cadet Master Sgt. Matt Harper, Cadet Col. Yessenia Segovia, Cadet Tech. Sgt. Vance Hagewood, Maj. Des Shook, USAF, Lt. Col. Benjamin Wright, USAR.

DMC NEWS

Employee's Son Registers via the Telephone

Vanessa Thompson, Contact Representative with the Data Management Center, made sure her son, Anton, registered with the Selective Service System on his 18th birthday before any presents were opened.

Congressional Testimony

(cont. from pg. 1)

According to the Director, declining registration rates are also due to declining resources. "The Agency has 40 percent less full-time employees than in previous years, and given the current fiscal structure, it is very difficult to achieve the goals that we're striving for," he said. "But we work very hard, and I am very proud of the work our people have done."

The Director emphasized that the FY 2001 appropriation request of \$24,480,000 "will be invested very prudently in one of the Nation's greatest security assets." "Your support of the President's Budget request," he continues, "will ensure that America maintains the Agency as a low-cost insurance policy against underestimating the nature and size of future threats our Armed Forces may face."

The Subcommittee is scheduled to announce its budget recommendations in late May, with the bill moving toward a vote in the House of Representatives in June or July.



Vanessa Thompson looks on while her son, Anton, registers with Selective Service.

Anton chose to register telephonically, while his mother looked on. "Technology is amazing," Anton said. "This was a very simple process."

Selective Service System reminder cards with a special Personal Identification Number (PIN) are sent to young men about to turn 18 years old. Upon receipt of the card the young man calls the toll free number provided. Once connected, he will be instructed to enter his Social Security number, date of birth, and the PIN he was provided. If his registration is successful, he will receive his Selective Service registration number over the phone and his acknowledgment card will be sent to him within two weeks.

General Hershey Remembered



These wreaths were placed on March 27 by the Hershey Chapter of the Reserve Officers Association (ROA) and by the Army, Navy, and Air Force Veterans in Canada and the United States (ANAVICUS).



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