



The REGISTER

Selective Service System

THE REGISTER

July / August 2005

District of Columbia Mayor Proclaims May 2005 as Selective Service Month

Supporting public service and patriotic duty, Mayor Anthony Williams signed a proclamation designating May 2005 as Selective Service Month in the District of Columbia to remind young men of their legal obligation to register and to commend those who have already registered with the Selective Service System. He invited Director William Chatfield and officials from the Washington, D.C., area to join him in the presentation of the proclamation at a press conference.

On May 11, 2005, Director Chatfield along with Chief of Staff Ernest Garcia and Mr. Alfred Turner, of Financial Management, joined the District of Columbia State Director Dr. Margaret Labat; Col. Herb Tillery, Chief of Procurement for the Mayor's Office; Mr. Kerwin Miller, Director of Veterans Affairs for D.C.; Lt. Col. Joe Nickens, ROTC for D.C. Public Schools; and Lt. Col. Tom Washington, Reserve Force Officer for D.C., at the Mayor's Weekly Press Briefing, recorded live in the John A. Wilson Building.

Mayor Williams asked Director Chatfield to come forward to receive his signed and framed proclamation. The Director then briefed the audience and viewers on the Selective Service System mission and encouraged all of D.C. to continue to educate young men of their legal obligation to register. Reporters from the news media asked Director Chatfield questions regarding the public fear of returning to the draft, the consequences of not registering, and why women weren't required to register. Answering each question with direct and precise response, the Director clarified the current Administration's position



D.C. PROCLAMATION — Mayor Anthony Williams proudly presents to Director William Chatfield a proclamation designating May 2005 as Selective Service Month in the District of Columbia.

on the draft, what the federal law says, and his role in increasing public awareness and understanding of the Selective Service System. [SSS](#)

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Pacifist Churches Visit National Headquarters

As Conscientious Objectors, Pacifists Learn More About Alternative Service

With recent publicity in the media about the military not fulfilling their recruiting quota, Selective Service System officials at National Headquarters have been visited by members of pacifist churches representing the

head of the Alternative Service Division. Mr. Flahavan stated that rumors of dates when a draft was suppose to start have passed, and Congress' latest vote on a bill to reinstate a military draft was voted as 402 nays and 2 yeas.

The meeting lasted just under four hours with all questions and issues addressed.

Three weeks later, on June 7, 2005, six Mennonite leaders visited National Headquarters with similar questions and concerns. Mr. Flahavan, Ms. Costley, and Mr. Gustav Jakowitsch, a policy analyst in Mobilization, briefed the guests. [SSS](#)



VISITS BY PACIFISTS — Members of pacifist churches traveled to National Headquarters with questions about looming fears of a draft and to learn more about alternative service. Deputy Director Eric Benson speaks to the Old German Brethren with Mr. Richard Flahavan (far right) standing by.

Old German Baptist Brethren and the Mennonites. These pacifists were hoping to get heads up of a potential draft in addition to better understand the role of conscientious objectors so they may plan and prepare the young men in their community for alternative service in the event the draft is reinstated.

On May 13, 2005, six members of the Old German Brethren were briefed by Deputy Director Eric Benson on the current Administration's position regarding the draft and what Selective Service does, followed by presentations by Mr. Richard Flahavan, Associate Director for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, and Ms. Cassandra Costley,

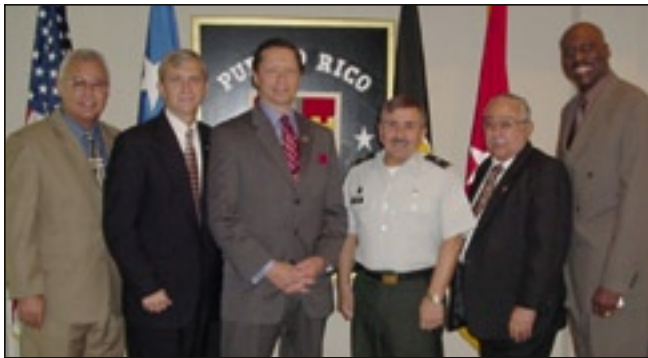


DISPELLING DRAFT FEARS — The Mennonites and Ms. Cassandra Costley (far right) listen to Mr. Flahavan's briefing.

Outreach Efforts Focus on SSS Registration

Director Travels to Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands to Seek Support in Boosting Selective Service Registrations

In early June 2005, Director William Chatfield traveled to Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands with a mission, asking the local leaders for their support in bringing



MAKING THE ROUNDS— Selective Service officials visit Puerto Rico's Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. Francisco Marquez, the military officer in charge of Puerto Rico's National Guard. Above, from left to right are Lt. Col. Mario Morales, Puerto Rico's Army National Guard Commander for Detachment 2; Mr. Keith Scragg, Selective Service Region II Director; Selective Service Director William Chatfield; Brig. Gen. Marquez; Mr. Walter Perales-Reyes, State Director for Puerto Rico; and Mr. Willie Blanding, Selective Service Associate Director for Mobilization.

up the Selective Service registration compliance to 100%. Mr. Willie Blanding, Associate Director for Mobilization, from National Headquarters, and Mr. Keith Scragg, Region II Director, joined Director Chatfield on his meetings with top officials.

Making his first stop to Puerto Rico, Director Chatfield asked for the Adjutant General's support to improve low registration compliance in Puerto Rico and to increase staffing at Selective Service National Guard detachment in Puerto Rico.

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HIGHLIGHTING THE BENEFITS — Director Chatfield explains the benefits associated with Selective Service registration to Ms. Maria Soto, a legislative aide for Federal Affairs to Puerto Rico Governor Anibal Acevedo.

Army Guard Officers Support Local Board Training



Selective Service's Reserve Force Officers (RFOs), Lt. Col. Brad Willette and Maj. Ryan Ruehle, taught the Local Board Continuation Training this spring in Van Wert, Ohio. Maj. Ruehle role played as "Dr. Mark Weller," dressed in a white lab coat, wearing a stethoscope around his neck and a large name tag claiming a 2-AM reclassification. This "tag" classified him as a medical specialist deferred because of critical community need involving patient care. His presentation was a classic example used in training. [SSS](#)

LOCAL BOARD MEMBER TRAINING SESSION — RFOs Lt. Col. Brad Willette (left) and Maj. Ryan Ruehle led the local board member continuation training session in Van Wert, Ohio. The SSS sign is posted on the door of the County Commissioners' building where the training session took place.

News From the Front

From the Diary Pages of a Selective Service Reserve Force Officer Deployed to Afghanistan

EDITOR'S NOTE: The photos on this page were passed along by Capt. Matt Pintur, who is a Selective Service Reserve Force Officer (RFO) from Elgin, IL, Springfield Detachment 1-1. He has been sending photos and writing of his experiences during deployment to Afghanistan. He is currently stationed at Bagram Air Force Base.

JANUARY 19, 2005 — In the photo on the right, Capt. Matt Pintur is standing on the left. The two men standing at the right are the incoming (far right) and outgoing (second from right) British soldiers. Their tour is four months. “The Haji ah,” what Capt. Pintur says is referred as “local national,” is Dedar, the brother of an influential leader in from the area just over their left shoulders. Dedar employs about 50 workers who crush rock for gravel used in construction projects.”



AFGHANISTAN OUTPOST — Selective Service RFO Capt. Matt Pintur, who is currently deployed to Afghanistan, stands at the left. The two British officers are on the right. Dedar (center), a local national, mans the outpost.

Capt. Pintur adds, “This photo was taken this morning at a lookout post used by the Afghan militia for years.

They’ve used this spot to ‘bust up’ the Soviets years ago. In some areas of the country the militia still occupy positions like this one, because they have for so long; plus, they really don’t have much else to do. The outpost is made of Russian ammo cans that still have the Soviet writing on them, and steel portable runway section stolen from the base when the Russians were there.” SSS



AFGHANISTAN TOUR — The view from the outpost, looking southwest along the mountain, can be seen in the photo above. The road is the one the soldiers traveled to the outpost. The mountain peak to the left, middle of the photo is the beginning of the gunnery ranges that stretch a few miles along the mountains. The barren part of the valley can be seen in the foreground with the more fertile ground on the other side. The local nationals will try to grow produce wherever they can. The photo on the right is of an old Russian armored personnel carrier. As survivors, the Afghans can make do with whatever they can find laying around. More than likely, these carriers were not drivable in this terrain and the Afghans do not have cranes to move them.



Afghanistan as Seen Through the Eyes of an RFO

Soldiers Make a Difference in Parwan Province



SPREADING GOODWILL — December 18, 2004, soldiers from Bagram Air Force Base walked among the local nationals during a food drop.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The photos on this page were forwarded by RFO Capt. Matt Pintur. The photo on the left was taken December 2004, during a humanitarian effort to pass out food to the local nationals in need. The following is an excerpt from an article, "Soldiers say they make a difference" by Michelle Tan of St. Cloud Times, published in the Duluth News Tribune, November 28, 2004.

Capt. Matt Pintur along with Maj. John Tammes, of Elgin, IL, work at Bagram Air Force Base's operations. Their job is to "win the hearts and minds" of the Afghans. They distribute information on the national Afghan government, publish a newspaper directed at locals, put up posters with parts of the Afghan Constitution in schools, and they've worked to encourage voter registration for the October 9th presidential election, the country's first direct presidential election.

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Prospective Marble Mine, Salang Valley, Afghanistan

A note from RFO Capt. Matt Pintur:

APRIL 14, 2005 — I'm back. After being tied to a large project that is becoming less demanding, I'm finally able to get a few other projects spun up. These pictures are from a "look see" to get eyes/grids on a prospective marble mine about 15-1/2 miles north of Bagram Air Force Base, in Afghanistan.

One of the projects on the new Provincial Governor's wish list is to get marble mining up and running. The main idea, naturally, is jobs now. This project is geared towards large capacity building and will bring real GNP to the area, as well as to the country. The goals are simple: to have the further processing of raw marble done here, supporting the huge Afghan demand, as well as exporting some, and to add revenue to the national GNP. Far too much raw material is being sent out of

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SALANG VALLEY — April 14, 2005, Capt. Matt Pintur visited Salang Valley, Afghanistan, to check out a prospective marble mine, 15-1/2 miles north of Bagram Air Force Base.

Outreach Efforts

(cont. from pg. 3)

Selective Service personnel also visited Puerto Rico's State Director for Veterans Affairs, Mr. Luis Ramos, to solicit his support in improving registration compliance in Puerto Rico.

Director Chatfield toured Selective Service's Detachment 2 in Puerto Rico and assisted Lt. Col. Mario Morales, of Puerto Rico's Army National Guard and the Commander of Detachment 2, in registering his twin sons with Selective Service System. At the Puerto Rico Detachment 2 drill site, Lt. Col. Morales was presented a well deserved Joint Service Commendation Medal for his dedicated service.

The Virgin Islands was the next stop on the outreach itinerary. Selective Service officials met with the U.S. Virgin Islands Governor Charles Turnbull to report on Virgin Islands' 2002 legislation requiring registration with Selective Service System when men under age 26



ONLINE REGISTRATION — During a visit to Selective Service Detachment 2 in Puerto Rico, Director William Chatfield assists the twin sons of Lt. Col. Morales, Mario E. (left) and Mario J. (right), register online.

receive a driver's license and to thank the Governor for his thorough support of our Agency.



MEETING THE GOVERNOR — From left to right are Mr. Warrington Tyson, U.S. Virgin Islands State Director; Chief Warrant Officer-2 Osbert Potter, U.S. Virgin Islands Army National Guard, Commander of Selective Service Detachment 2 in the Virgin Islands; U.S. Virgin Islands Governor Charles Turnbull; Mr. Willie Blanding; Director Chatfield; and Mr. Keith Scragg.

In addition, Director Chatfield visited with U.S. Virgin Islands' Commissioner of Education, Ms. Noreen Michael, to thank her for outstanding support of our high school registrar program and discuss other ways to help make young men aware of Selective Service System and the registration requirement. All 16 high schools in the Virgin Islands have a registrar. [SSS](#)

VIRGIN ISLANDS OUTREACH — Right, from left to right, are Ms. Noreen Michael, U.S. Virgin Islands Commissioner of Education; Director Chatfield, and Chief Warrant Officer Potter.



Army War College Visitors Get Educated

Every year about a dozen students and faculty of the U.S. Army War College visit National Headquarters. One benefit of the visit is the education of these future military leaders on the Agency's role in supplementing the volunteer military force with conscripted recruits in the event of a national emergency.

On May 11, 2005, Director William Chatfield addressed the group after initial introductions. Before handing over the floor to Mr. Richard Flahavan for the Agency overview, he wished everyone success in their military careers.

The Public and Intergovernmental Affairs (PIA) Director hosts the annual Army War College meeting. This year's meeting was a joint effort by PIA and Mobilization. Mr. Rick Moore, the lead registration official from the Call and Deliver Division, spoke on registration and compliance programs; Ms. Jennie Nash, manager of the Reclassification Division, explained how the health care personnel delivery system would operate in the event of a draft; Ms. Cassandra Costley, head of the Alternative Service Division, reported on alternative service and defined "conscientious objectors;" and Mr. Pat Schuback, senior public affairs specialist from the Public and Intergovernmental Affairs Office, gave his presentation covering the Agency's public awareness efforts. [SSS](#)



HEADQUARTERS GREETINGS — Director William Chatfield greets the Army War College visitors and highlights Selective Service's mission supporting the military in a time of crisis. Mr. Richard Flahavan (standing), Associate Director for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, was one of the hosts briefing the group.



GIFT OF APPRECIATION — Mr. Richard Flahavan receives on behalf of the Agency a color print of a painting that the class of 2006 presented to the Army War College. The painting, "Strategy at Noville," was of a historical scene from World War II.

The Washington Post Live Q&A Session



Q&A LIVE ONLINE — During a live Washington Post Q&A session, Public Affairs Specialist Dan Amon (above) enters his precise response. The screen of this online live session is shown on the right.

Beginning at 2:00 p.m., June 2, 2005, sounds of rapid-fire clicking of a keyboard with intermittent pauses was heard from Dan Amon's cubicle. Mr. Amon, a public affairs specialist in the Public and Intergovernmental Affairs Office at National Headquarters, was answering online questions on the Selective Service System as a follow up to the June 2nd *Washington Post* article, "After 30 Years, Draft Fears Rise," by *Washington Post* staff writer Christian Davenport. Mr. Amon spent an hour with the *Post's* online session, responding to more than 20 "live" questions about the draft and Selective Service. Questions ranged from reinstating the draft to serving on local boards, from suggesting a public service program to filing claim as a conscientious objector, from various individuals as far as Oregon, Texas, Michigan, and Florida, and right here in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.



The printed article was published on the cover of the *Washington Post* Metro Section based on in-depth interview at National Headquarters. [SSS](#)

Marble Mine, Salang Valley (cont. from pg. 5)

Afghanistan for further processing only to be sold back to the people of this country and the world at a considerable mark-up.

I'm looking into the entire marble mining/transportation/finishing process to see where we can best apply funding. We can't invest multi-millions of dollars from our position and the Army cannot apply the Commander's Emergency Response Program (CERP) to a business that is owned by an individual. But, we can provide funding to a municipality, thus funding a project that would have an indirect, naturally positive, effect. We can provide money

for a road to transport the raw materials. Or, we may purchase machinery that would help this Government-owned industry provide finished goods.

I'm looking into the entire process to see where to best apply CERP funding. This project is a long-term initiative that more than likely will get up and running after I leave, but it needs to get started.

In addition, the few projects getting started, which will effect the short term, are as follows: women/men/children's health public service announcements (PSAs)

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DC Charter School Student Interviews Associate Director of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs

Student Tamara Thomas, of Friendship Edison Public Charter Schools' Blow Pierce Junior Academy (grades 6 through 8), located in Washington, D.C., interviewed Mr. Richard Flahavan, Director of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, at National Headquarters. She was accompanied by Marilyn Kaufman, a director at Friendship Public Charter Schools and the teacher



CHARTER SCHOOL INTERVIEW — Student Tamara Thomas, of Friendship Edison Public Charter Schools, listens to the response of Mr. Richard Flahavan, Associate Director for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, to a question regarding the draft.



NEWSLETTER STAFF — Friendship Edison Public Charter Schools newsletter classmates.

overseeing the school's newsletter group, and two classmates; one as a note taker and the other a photographer.

Ms. Cassandra Costley, head of the Alternative Service Division, along with Mr. Gustav Jakowitsch, a policy specialist from Mobilization, assisted Mr. Flahavan during the interview.

Tamara selected the topic herself and researched on the draft prior her interview with Mr. Flahavan. [SSS](#)

Afghanistan tour (cont. from pg. 5)

Base operations at Bagram focus on villages in a 10-kilometer radius from the 840-acre air base. November 21, 2004, Maj. Tammes and Capt. Pintur visited a Jangadam village, just outside the northwest perimeter of Bagram. The United States is building a \$42,000, eight-room school in Jangadam using money from the Commander's Emergency Response Program.

The federal program operates in 13 categories, including education, irrigation, and traffic. It pays for emergency projects. The schools have to be approved in writing by the Ministry of Education in Kabul before the money is released to build it. [SSS](#)



GOODWILL — Spc. Guzman with an Afghan baby walks among the local children.

Marble Mine *(cont. from pg. 8)*



MANY BRIDGES TO CROSS — Capt. Matt Pintur (center) and fellow soldier cross one of the many rock bridges to reach the prospective marble site.

and more farmers training. The first PSA will cover midwife training with a goal of decreasing the infant mortality rates. The other PSA/training will address increasing capacity among the Afghan farmers, helping them understand how their produce can fit in the world's markets. The farmers already grow outstanding fruits and vegetables, but they can do better.

The pictures here were taken April 14, 2005. These shots were taken from the prospective marbling site of the valley below. Bagram Air Force Base is at 4,800 feet elevation, the trusty ole global positioning system came in over 7,300 feet elevation. The Afghan "Stairmaster" kicked my butt! I ached all over, even my aches ached! Some of the other pictures are of the bridges we had to cross to get there. And, one is of

a chi (tea) break with the local elders after coming down; this ole boy wasn't thinking about sitting cross-legged on a carpet after coming down. So, I had to show our Afghan hosts a little bit of my Roman power-lounging technique. I think if mountain goats had to wear 12.5 XWs, they wouldn't be able to run up mountain so easily, to say nothing for those that wear 16/17s!

Stay tuned. The marathon is quickly turning into a sprint with only a few months left to go! [SSS](#)

Matt Pintur
CPT TC
TF Eagle
Bagram Airfield
Afghanistan



CHI TEA BREAK — Capt. Matt Pintur (center) takes his Chi tea "roman" style with the local nationals and fellow soldier after their trek of 2,500 elevation gain to the marble mine, in Salang Valley.

Initial Board Member Training

News from Region III — San Diego, California

On June 4, 2005, Lt. Col. Robert Jenness, Detachment Commander for the California Detachment 3-4 unit, instructed a group of board members during the eight-hour Initial Board Member Training (IBMT) session, held at the U.S. Army Reserve Center in San Diego, California.

New local board members are citizen volunteers whose mission, upon a



INITIAL BOARD MEMBER TRAINING — Above, Lt. Col. Robert Jenness goes over the key issues which were raised in the IBMT video tape. Left, new local board members participate in Selective Service's required training session.

draft, will be to decide who among the registrants in their community will receive deferments, postponements, or exemption from military service based on the individual registrant's circumstances and beliefs. They are appointed by the Director of Selective Service in the name of the President, on recommendations made by their respective state governors or an equivalent public official. [SSS](#)



LOCAL BOARD MEMBERS — New local board members complete their initial training session. Lt. Col. Jenness (far right) was the lead instructor; and Maj. Ed Cepe (far left), of California Detachment 3-4, assisted Lt. Col. Jenness during the training session.

In Memoriam

Former Reserve Force Officer Killed in Afghanistan



Capt. David Scott Connelly, a U.S. Army Reservist and former Selective Service Reserve Force Officer (RFO), was killed in a helicopter crash in Afghanistan, on April 6, 2005. He was 37.


At the time of his death, Capt. Connelly was an assistant district attorney for Suffolk County, Massachusetts, deployed last fall to Afghanistan, along with his Brockton, Massachusetts-based 1173rd Transportation Battalion. He was posthumously awarded a Bronze Star and promoted to the rank of major before being buried with full military honors.

On April 6, Capt. Connelly was traveling with 17 others in a CH-47 Chinook helicopter about 80 miles southwest of Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan. The helicopter was

returning from delivering personnel, mail, and supplies to an Army base in Bagram, when it crashed. All of the 18 individuals on board were killed. The Army reported that the crash was caused by bad weather.

Capt. Connelly had served as an RFO for Selective Service System from March 2000 to February 2002, representing SSS Region I Boston area.

A native of Newton, Massachusetts, Capt. Connelly graduated from Newton South High School. He enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard, before attending Boston College. While in college, Capt. Connelly joined the ROTC program. Upon graduation in 1994, he joined the Army's elite Ranger special operations units and went on to attend Suffolk University Law School, graduating in 2003. In that same year, he married his wife, Debra, and was hired with the district attorney's office as a prosecutor.

Capt. Connelly's recognitions include Boston College ROTC program's Veterans of Foreign Wars Award, 1993, and the Reserve Officers' Association Award, 1994. 



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The Register welcomes any news of interest to the Selective Service System employees. Send article submissions to Editor, *The Register*, Selective Service System, National Headquarters, Arlington, VA 22209-2425.