

The original documents are located in Box 5, folder “Clemency Program - General (2)” of the Philip Buchen Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

Copyright Notice

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald R. Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 16, 1974

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
UPON SIGNING A PROCLAMATION
ANNOUNCING A PROGRAM FOR THE RETURN
OF VIETNAM-ERA DRAFT EVADERS
AND MILITARY DESERTERS

THE CABINET ROOM

11:21 A.M. EDT

Good morning.

In my first week as President, I asked the Attorney General and the Secretary of Defense to report to me, after consultation with other Governmental officials and private citizens, concerned on the status of those young Americans who have been convicted, charged, investigated or are still being sought as draft evaders or military deserters.

On August 19, at the National Convention of Veterans of Foreign Wars in the City of Chicago, I announced my intention to give these young people a chance to earn their return to the mainstream of American society so that they can, if they choose, contribute, even though belatedly, to the building and the betterment of our country and the world.

I did this for the simple reason that for American fighting men, the long and divisive war in Vietnam has been over for more than a year, and I was determined then, as now, to do everything in my power to bind up the Nation's wounds.

I promised to throw the weight of my Presidency into the scales of justice on the side of leniency and mercy, but I promised also to work within the existing system of military and civilian law and the precedents set by my predecessors who faced similar post-war situations, among them Abraham Lincoln and Harry S. Truman.

My objective of making future penalties fit the seriousness of each individual's offense and of mitigating punishment already meted out in a spirit of equity has proved an immensely hard and very complicated matter, even more difficult than I knew it would be.

MORE



But, the agencies of Government concerned, and my own staff, have worked with me literally night and day in order to develop fair and orderly procedures, and completed their work for my final approval over this last weekend.

I do not want to delay another day in resolving the dilemmas of the past so that we may all get going on the pressing problems of the present.

Therefore, I am today signing the necessary Presidential Proclamation and Executive Orders that will put this plan into effect.

The program provides for administrative disposition of cases involving draft evaders and military deserters not yet convicted or punished. In such cases, 24 months of alternate service will be required which may be reduced for mitigating circumstances.

The program also deals with cases of those already convicted by a civilian or military court. For the latter purpose, I am establishing a Clemency Review Board of nine distinguished Americans whose duty it will be to assist me in assuring that the Government's forgiveness is extended to applicable cases of prior convictions as equitably and as impartially as is humanly possible.

The primary purpose of this program is the reconciliation of all our people and the restoration of the essential unity of Americans within which honest differences of opinion do not descend to angry discord, and mutual problems are not polarized by excessive passion.

My sincere hope is that this is a constructive step toward a calmer and cooler appreciation of our individual rights and responsibilities and our common purpose as a Nation, whose future is always more important than its past.

At this point, I will sign the Proclamation that I mentioned in my statement, followed by an Executive Order for the establishment of the Clemency Board, followed by the signing of an Executive Order for the Director of the Selective Service, who will have a prime responsibility in the handling of the matters involving alternate service.

Thank you very much.

END (AT 11:27 A.M. EDT)



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SEPTEMBER 16, 1974

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
UPON SIGNING A PROCLAMATION
ANNOUNCING A PROGRAM FOR THE RETURN
OF VIETNAM-ERA DRAFT EVADERS
AND MILITARY DESERTERS

THE CABINET ROOM

11:21 A.M. EDT

Good morning.

In my first week as President, I asked the Attorney General and the Secretary of Defense to report to me, after consultation with other Governmental officials and private citizens, concerned on the status of those young Americans who have been convicted, charged, investigated or are still being sought as draft evaders or military deserters.

On August 19, at the National Convention of Veterans of Foreign Wars in the City of Chicago, I announced my intention to give these young people a chance to earn their return to the mainstream of American society so that they can, if they choose, contribute, even though belatedly, to the building and the betterment of our country and the world.

I did this for the simple reason that for American fighting men, the long and divisive war in Vietnam has been over for more than a year, and I was determined then, as now, to do everything in my power to bind up the Nation's wounds.

I promised to throw the weight of my Presidency into the scales of justice on the side of leniency and mercy, but I promised also to work within the existing system of military and civilian law and the precedents set by my predecessors who faced similar post-war situations, among them Abraham Lincoln and Harry S. Truman.

My objective of making future penalties fit the seriousness of each individual's offense and of mitigating punishment already meted out in a spirit of equity has proved an immensely hard and very complicated matter, even more difficult than I knew it would be.

MORE



But, the agencies of Government concerned, and my own staff, have worked with me literally night and day in order to develop fair and orderly procedures, and completed their work for my final approval over this last weekend.

I do not want to delay another day in resolving the dilemmas of the past so that we may all get going on the pressing problems of the present.

Therefore, I am today signing the necessary Presidential Proclamation and Executive Orders that will put this plan into effect.

The program provides for administrative disposition of cases involving draft evaders and military deserters not yet convicted or punished. In such cases, 24 months of alternate service will be required which may be reduced for mitigating circumstances.

The program also deals with cases of those already convicted by a civilian or military court. For the latter purpose, I am establishing a Clemency Review Board of nine distinguished Americans whose duty it will be to assist me in assuring that the Government's forgiveness is extended to applicable cases of prior convictions as equitably and as impartially as is humanly possible.

The primary purpose of this program is the reconciliation of all our people and the restoration of the essential unity of Americans within which honest differences of opinion do not descend to angry discord, and mutual problems are not polarized by excessive passion.

My sincere hope is that this is a constructive step toward a calmer and cooler appreciation of our individual rights and responsibilities and our common purpose as a Nation, whose future is always more important than its past.

At this point, I will sign the Proclamation that I mentioned in my statement, followed by an Executive Order for the establishment of the Clemency Board, followed by the signing of an Executive Order for the Director of the Selective Service, who will have a prime responsibility in the handling of the matters involving alternate service.

Thank you very much.

END (AT 11:27 A.M. EDT)



TOTALLY EMBARGOED
UNTIL 11:30 a.m. EDT

150/100
SEPTEMBER 16, 1974

Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT IN
ANNOUNCING A PROGRAM FOR THE
RETURN OF VIETNAM ERA DRAFT
EVADERS AND MILITARY DESERTERS

In my first week as President, I asked the Attorney General of the United States and the Secretary of Defense to report to me, after consultation with other government officials and private citizens concerned, on the status of those young Americans who have been convicted, charged, investigated or are still being sought as draft evaders or military deserters. On August 19, at the national convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Chicago, I announced my intention to give these young people a chance to earn their return to the mainstream of American society so that they can, if they choose, contribute even though belatedly to the building and betterment of our country and the world.

I did this for the simple reason that the long and divisive war in Vietnam has been over, for American fighting men, more than a year, and I was determined then as now to do everything in my power to bind up the nation's wounds.

I promised to throw the weight of my Presidency into the scales of justice on the side of leniency and mercy, but I promised also to work within the existing system of military and civilian law and the precedents set by my predecessors who faced similar post-war situations such as Abraham Lincoln and Harry Truman.

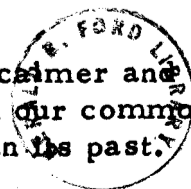
My objective of making future penalties fit the seriousness of each individual's offense and of mitigating punishment already meted out in a spirit of equity has proved an immensely hard and complicated matter, even more difficult than I knew it would be. But the agencies of government concerned and my own staff have worked with me literally day and night in order to develop fair and orderly procedures and completed their work for my final approval over this last weekend. I do not want to delay another day in resolving the dilemmas of the past, so that we may all get going on the pressing problems of the present. Therefore, I am today signing the necessary Presidential proclamation and executive orders that will put this plan into effect.

The program provides for administrative disposition of cases involving draft evaders and military deserters not yet convicted or punished. In such cases, 24 months of alternate service will be required which may be reduced for mitigating circumstances. The program also deals with cases of those already convicted by a civilian or military court. For the latter purpose, I am establishing a Clemency Review Board of nine distinguished Americans whose duty it will be to assist me in assuring that the government's forgiveness is extended to applicable cases of prior conviction as equitably and as impartially as is humanly possible.

The primary purpose of this program is the reconciliation of all our people and the restoration of the essential unity of Americans within which honest differences of opinion do not descend to angry discord and mutual problems are not polarized by excessive passion.

My sincere hope is that this is a constructive step toward a calmer and cooler appreciation of our individual rights and responsibilities and our common purpose as a nation, whose future is always more important than the past.

#



1. GSA -
2. What response from phone
3. forms - inquiry numbers -

Goodell ^{UTF}
Hoffman
Mott
Rose
Reptone

Meeting 9/17 Amnesty

1. Goodell wants to call early meeting of Bd.
2. Wants briefing them - & a couple of lawyers right away
3. Those in jail 1st priority -
130 evaders
100 in jail (deserters)
released on own recog.

4. Not in jail
8,700 evaders ? deserters -

5. Staff of Bd
Loans from DOJ/DOD/others
interim - ↑ ↑

6. Who in DOD -
will coordinate, DJ -

A. deputy post-convicted w/ suspended w/
pre- .. w/ obvious required
service.

B. These w/ VD where do they go.

C. Q of honorable discharges/benefits



War Critic Goodell Heads Amnesty Unit

By Harry F. Rosenthal
Associated Press



Sweden by some who fled to escape military service
or jail

Washington Star-News
Tuesday, September 17, 1974

Amnesty

Some items in this folder were not digitized because it contains copyrighted materials. Please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library for access to these materials.

file
Amnesty

September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Robert P. Griffin
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marris - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu

September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Roman L. Hruska
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Harris - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:alu



September 21, 1974

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable James O. Eastland
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/ins: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Barry Goldwater
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/ins: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korozyos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable J. Bennett Johnston, Jr.
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

TOM

Tom C. Kerolages
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Ted Stevens
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Harris - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Dewey F. Bartlett
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:KF:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisers.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korolegos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Morris Cotton
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologes
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable William Lloyd Scott
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from these slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Bill Brock
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:RF:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Kerolegos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Harry F. Byrd, Jr.
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:KF:mlu

September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from these slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Kerolegos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable James A. McClure
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:KF:mlu

September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Robert T. Stafford
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:KF:alu

September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Clifford P. Hansen
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Doc v/lmc: Dr. Harris - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Kerolagos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Strom Thurmond
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/in: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:KF:alu

September 21, 1974

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Kerolegos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Howard W. Cannon
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EP:slu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senators:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Thomas J. McIntyre
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/ine: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:alu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korozyes
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Charles H. Percy
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/ins: Dr. Mays - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu

September 21, 1974

Dear Senators:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisers.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom
Tom C. Korolegos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Sam Nunn
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/enc: Dr. Narris - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EP:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Robert Taft, Jr.
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/ins: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Milton R. Young
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu

September 21, 1974

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable John L. McClellan
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:nlv

September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korolegos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Jesse A. Helms
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mla



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom C. Kerozagos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Robert Dole
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Doc w/Inc: Dr. HARRIS - for further handling
Counselor Harsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mln



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Richard S. Schweiker
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/ins: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu

September 21, 1974

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Herman E. Talmadge
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/incc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:KF:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable John Tower
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:KF:mlu

September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom C. Kerologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Edward J. Gurney
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EP:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Paul J. Fannin
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Henry Bellmon
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marks - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:alu

September 21, 1974

Dear Senator:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable James B. Allen
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Jennings Randolph
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu



September 21, 1974

Dear Senators:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Robert C. Byrd
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Marrs - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:EF:mlu



VANCE HARTKE, IND., CHAIRMAN
 CLIFFORD P. HANSEN, WYO.
 ROBERT T. STAFFORD, VT.
 JAMES A. MCCLURE, IDAHO
 FRANK J. BRIZZI, STAFF DIRECTOR
 GUY H. MC MICHAEL III, GENERAL COUNSEL

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 18, 1974

The President
 The White House
 Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

BT

It has come to our attention that veterans across the Nation are alarmed at prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals under your recent amnesty proposal.

Veterans, particularly those who have been disabled in the service of our country, would consider this an affront to the sacrifices they made for our people. We respectfully, but strongly, urge that you take the necessary steps to allay these fears.

The current rate of unemployment for veterans between the ages of 20 and 24 is around ten per cent. We urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

We appreciate your strong commitment to the welfare of America's veterans.

With kindest regards and best wishes,

Respectfully,

James Randolph
Robert C. Byrd
Strom Thurmond
Clifford P. Hansen
Robert T. Stafford
James A. McClure
Henry F. Byrd

(Hansen)
(Stafford)
GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY

The President
Page 2
September 18, 1974

✓ Stevens ✓
Schwicker ✓
✓ Scott ✓
Haines
Young
Marsden ✓

✓ Bill Book

John Tower

✓ Wm. L. Roth

Schradt Huoney

✓ Norris Cotton

Paul Sarbanes

✓ Dennis DeConcini

Henry Belmon ✓

✓ Jeff Stevers

✓ James B. Allen

(Johnston)

✓ J. R. Brown

Jesse Helms ✓

✓ Barry Goldwater

J. M. W. Biller

James O. Eastland

Walter D. Young

✓ Kenneth Hornbeck

✓ Bob Judd

✓ Frank Rosten

Sam Nunn

(Dole)

✓ Robert Dole

~~William~~

(Percy)

(Schweiker)

✓ Dick Schweiker

Howard W. Callahan

Herman E. Talmadge

Tam M. Rife



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 27, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Ted Marrs

FROM: Tom Korologos *TK*

SUBJECT: Letter from 32 Senators to the President regarding reports that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals.

Sam Shaw of the Selective Service called this office this morning and said that the SS would like to participate in the drafting of a Presidential response to the subject letter, if such a letter is prepared. The Senators' letter was sent to you for further action on September 21.

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
cc: Ron Nessen - FYI
cc: Jay French



September 21, 1974

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I would like to thank you for the September 18 letter to the President in which you and several of your colleagues convey the alarm of veterans across the country about the prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals. You also urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

I have checked with the Director of the Selective Service since he is administering the program of alternate service, and was informed that as a general rule it is not contemplated that these men will serve in VA administered institutions. Nonetheless, you may be assured that your letter has been passed along for the attention of the President and his appropriate advisors.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Tom C. Korologos
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Jennings Randolph
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

bcc w/inc: Dr. Harris - for further handling
Counsellor Marsh - FYI
Jay French - FYI

TCK:RF:mlu



EVANCE HARTKE, IND., CHAIRMAN
HERNAN E. TALMADGE, GA.
FRANCIS RANDOLPH, W. VA.
HAROLD E. HUGHES, IOWA
SAM CRANSTON, CALIF.
CLIFFORD P. HANSEN, WYO.
STROM THURMOND, S.C.
ROBERT T. STAFFORD, VT.
JAMES A. MCCLURE, IDAHO

FRANK J. BRIZZI, STAFF DIRECTOR
GUY H. MC MICHAEL III, GENERAL COUNSEL

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 18, 1974

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

BT
It has come to our attention that veterans across the Nation are alarmed at prospects that draft evaders and/or deserters may be given alternative service jobs in VA hospitals under your recent amnesty proposal.

Veterans, particularly those who have been disabled in the service of our country, would consider this an affront to the sacrifices they made for our people. We respectfully, but strongly, urge that you take the necessary steps to allay these fears.

The current rate of unemployment for veterans between the ages of 20 and 24 is around ten per cent. We urge that no alternative service job slots be taken away from those slots which could be filled by unemployed or disabled veterans.

We appreciate your strong commitment to the welfare of America's veterans.

With kindest regards and best wishes,

Respectfully,



Strom Thurmond
Clifford P. Hansen
Robert T. Stafford
James A. McClure
Henry F. Brown
Francis Randolph
Robert P. Byrd

Bob Bush
Wm L. Cott
Harry Pitts

John Tower
Schuyler Hunsney
Paul Sarnin

Wm. Butler
Jeff Stevens

Henry Beeman
Lawrence B. Allen

(Johnston)

Bob [unclear]
Bery [unclear]

Leslie Helms
John W. Keller

James O. Eastland
Gerald [unclear]
Henry [unclear]

Walter [unclear]
Mr. Jay L.
Sam [unclear]

(Dole)

Robert Dole

[unclear] (Percy)

(Schweiker)

Rich Schweiker
Hermon E. Talridge

Howard W. Callahan
Tom W. [unclear]



September 26, 1974

Amnesty

Dear Mr. Karpatkin:

Thank you very much for your letter of September 19th, enclosing several copies of The New York Times article which you wrote about amnesty.

Your article is very thought-provoking and I appreciate your views and opinions.

Most sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mr. Marvin M. Karpatkin
Karpatkin, Ohrenstein & Pollet
1345 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10019



Amnesty

KARPATKIN, OHRENSTEIN & POLLET
COUNSELORS AT LAW

MARVIN MOSES KARPATKIN
MANFRED OHRENSTEIN
MICHAEL N. POLLET
JOHN E. LE MOULT
—
STEVEN DELIBERT

1345 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10019
(212) 765-2700
CABLE "KARPOLAW NEWYORK"

September 19, 1974

Philip W. Buchen, Esq.
Counsel to the President
White House Office Building
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Buchen:

I enclose a copy of a recent article which I published in The New York Times concerning the absence of any need for amnesty for a large number of young men who may be thought to be draft evaders, but who are, in fact, not.

I would be delighted to provide any additional information you may request.

Very truly yours,

Marvin M. Karpatkin
Marvin M. Karpatkin

Enclosure
MMK:rnk



A Safe Return

By Marvin M. Karparkin

President Ford's endorsement of amnesty in August, which culminated Monday in the proclamation of a conditional amnesty program, touched off an important national debate, long overdue, on what the conditions for amnesty should be, or whether there should be any conditions at all.

It is not sufficiently known, however, that large numbers of young men who left the United States rather than accept induction into the armed services have no need for any amnesty, absolute or conditional.

They do not require any act of Presidential or legislative grace because the United States Supreme Court and Federal appellate courts have established legal principles under which their induction orders are plainly unlawful.

One of the most unfortunate aspects of the entire amnesty discussion is that many of these young men abroad have never been authoritatively informed that their continuing voluntary exile may be completely unnecessary.

Some examples:

- In 1970, the Supreme Court ruled in the case of *Welsh v. United States* that conscientious-objector status need not be based on religious beliefs: Sincerely held moral and ethical beliefs in opposition to participation in war in any form would suffice. Consequently, any induction order that followed a denial of the objector's claim, because it was "nonreligious," was illegal.

The problem is that hundreds, and perhaps thousands, of nonreligious objectors, who could have easily qualified under the *Welsh* doctrine, left the country before the *Welsh* decision.

And very few of them know that *Welsh* has been held retroactive, and that the distinguished Court of Appeals for the First Circuit, in Boston, has ruled that such a person may vindicate his position by proving, even years later, that the reason he did not file any conscientious-objector claim was that he knew he would not have a chance of getting a nonreligious conscientious-objection claim recognized by his draft board.

- In the latter years of the draft, which ended on June 30, 1973, a series of court decisions—and then an act of Congress—established a rule that a draft board could not deny a conscientious-objection claim, or any other claim for deferment, without furnishing cogent reasons for its action.

But many young men left the country in anger and frustration that their carefully prepared and documented claims were denied, without opinion and without reason, before this salutary legal principle was adopted.

Although their indictments for refusal of induction may be years old, and although Justice Department statistics may consider them "fugitives," there may be thousands more who could successfully assert this defense and be completely exonerated.

- One of the great national disgraces of the draft era was the inadequacy of preinduction physical examinations. The Army was compelled to discharge tens of thousands who never should have been found acceptable in the first place.

Federal courts finally began to insist that local boards perform their legal duty of reviewing every claim for deferment, including claims based on physical defects. The boards had previously, in violation of law, simply referred these claims to Army examiners, or in a shockingly large number of cases a clerk would merely file the claim away, and not refer it to anyone.

Under the Ford doctrine, established by the Court of Appeals in Boston in *United States v. Ford—Kevin Thomas Ford* was a draftee—and concurred in by virtually every Court of Appeals in the country, this kind of filing and forgetting makes an induction order illegal.

- Until their action had been outlawed by the courts, local boards had assumed the power, never granted by Congress, to "declare" a draftee "delinquent" because of some asserted failure to comply with regulations, and to impose three types of sanctions: punitive reclassification from a deferred classification to I-A, or "available for military service"; acceleration of induction, ahead of one's normal order to call; and induction without a preinduction physical examination.

Although the Supreme Court in 1969 ruled this delinquency scheme to be "blatantly lawless," no one knows how many men in Canada, or elsewhere, have an absolute defense because they were subject to the unconstitutional-delinquency treatment.

It is questionable if the statistical material presented to President Ford takes into consideration the large number of cases in which these and many other defenses are available. The President should direct Attorney General William B. Saxbe to systematically review all files of so-called evaders and to dismiss the indictments in all cases that can be closed out by simply honoring defenses established by judicial precedents.

This would greatly reduce the Presidential burden, and more significantly it would help to do justice to a large number of young men who are guilty of no crime.

It would demonstrate something that has been documented in hundreds of Federal court cases but is easily forgotten: A huge amount of draft-law evasion and violation was committed by the draft boards and the administrators of the Selective Service System.

Marvin M. Karparkin, who practices law in New York, is general counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union, which supports total and unconditional amnesty.



*Rsa
file*

SEP 28 1974

Dear Bob:

Thank you very much for your September 24 letter. As an early proponent of amnesty, your comments are especially appreciated. From the time I first gave consideration to a conditional amnesty program I have been confident that you and I would agree on the basic tenet that it was essential for the reconciliation of all of our people and the restoration of unity which has been torn too long by bitter divisiveness.

In the many months since you first advocated amnesty, I know that you have researched and studied the problem in depth. Therefore, I do appreciate your critique of certain phases of my proposals. I intend to ask my advisers who have the responsibility of implementing the program to review it and report back to me.

In closing, I want to thank you again for the forthrightness of your presentation. Your counsel has always been welcome and your judgment respected. And above all, it means a great deal to us to know that we share a goal which is necessary for the well-being of our country.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,

GERALD R. FORD

JERRY FORD

The Honorable Robert Taft, Jr.
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: w/incoming to

Charles Gedell - FYI

cc: w/incoming to ~~ENRINE~~ Philip Buchen - FYI



GRF:WHT:EF:VO:vo

ROBERT TAFT, JR.
OHIO



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

September 24, 1974

9-25
SEP 24 1974

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

My dear Mr. President:

Congratulations on your creation and implementation of a program for the return of Vietnam Era draft evaders and military deserters.

I commend you on your courageous move which represents a very positive step resulting in a practical method whereby draft evaders and military deserters can return to this country or cease to be fugitives without creating further divisions among Americans. Enough bitterness has already been generated in the discussion of these issues, and the timing was right to initiate a program which I know a sizable majority of citizens will support.

In good conscience, however, there are some aspects of the program with which I must take some issue and suggest reexamination. As you know, the basic concept which underlies both the legislation I have proposed and the Executive action you have taken is that the men are not to be prosecuted for their actions, but are to be allowed to earn for themselves the status of full and participating citizens. I am concerned that the imposition of a requirement for an agreement of allegiance (the draft evader) or an oath of allegiance (the military deserter) may be construed by the individuals involved, and later by the courts, as an unconstitutional bill of attainder in violation of the United States Constitution. My concern arises out of the case of Ex Parte Garland, 71 U.S. 3(1867) in which the United States Supreme Court struck down an oath re-



quired as a condition of the practice of law by the government of the Confederacy. In Garland, the Court was faced with highly emotional and controversial issues relating to the very fabric of our country. Surely in this instance, we should carefully adhere to the principle that the earning of immunity from prosecution should not be conditioned upon an unconstitutional condition. It would be unfortunate if your extremely commendable program were to be enmeshed in constitutional litigation because of an unnecessary requirement.

Furthermore on the practical side, I believe this requirement is an unnecessary condition as it may operate as a personal affront to the views of those individuals who might benefit from the program. Many of the draft evaders who either left the country or went underground firmly believed that they have engaged in the course of conduct required by their beliefs by resisting the draft. Evaders and deserters will, with some justification, equate taking an oath of allegiance as an admission of error and, therefore, preclude them from taking part in this most worthwhile program. I submit that the issue to be considered at this point is not whether draft resisters were right or wrong in abiding by their judgments. The issue now is simply whether we can create a successful mechanism for resolving this situation and thereby conciliate the divergent views held by Americans. The condition that an applicant take an oath of allegiance will not serve this purpose.

Furthermore, I would not have included deserters within the confines of any program of conditional amnesty. Those who are in the military are subject to the Uniform Code of Military Justice which, as you know, involves an entirely separate and distinct system of law and procedure than applicable to draft evaders. Men who left the military service and, particularly those who deserted in time of war in a combat situation, had a more disruptive impact on our Nation's defense posture than those who merely failed to appear at an induction center. In preparing my bill on "earned immunity," my research revealed that the military estimates that less than five percent of those who desert do so for ideologic reasons. Most young men desert because they are immature and do not adjust properly to a military environment. Some of these individuals leave the service because of a variety of reasons, including the commission of crimes or discreditable involvement with military authorities.



September 24, 1974

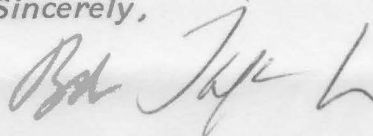
An amnesty program which includes deserters would be inherently unfair and certainly disruptive of military discipline.

I also foresee a problem in dividing the implementation of the amnesty program between the Department of Justice, the Department of Defense and the Clemency Board. Creating a division of authority among these three agencies without sufficient coordination can have the effect of preventing uniform administration of the amnesty program. To avoid these problems, I would delegate to the Clemency Board the exclusive power to deal with all members of the specified class of persons to whom you have extended this conditional offer of amnesty. The Board could then promulgate the rules and regulations and develop a uniform criteria in considering the merits of each individual case. The Board would then be in a superior position to prescribe the appropriate conditions of alternative service, if any, to each applicant; the fulfillment of which would entitle each to earned immunity.

In closing, please accept my heartfelt thanks for allowing me the opportunity to communicate my ideas with you regarding the Earned Immunity Act of 1974. You have my assurance that notwithstanding our points of disagreement, I shall continue to support your program in every way possible.

Personal regards.

Sincerely,



ROBERT TAFT, JR.
United States Senator

cc: The Honorable Charles Goodell
Mr. Richard Tropp



Pardon

October 1, 1974

Dear Mr. Price:

I am in receipt of the news clippings from the MIAMI HERALD and ST. PETERSBURG TIMES which you forwarded to my office. I assume that you are in accord with the positions expressed in these clippings.

The President has indicated that any person seeking a pardon should apply to the Pardon Attorney at the Department of Justice by utilizing existing procedures. To my knowledge neither Mr. Dean nor Ms attorney have made application.

The amnesty program was designed to offer both evaders and deserters the opportunity to return home. Those who wanted an unconditional amnesty disagree with the President's initiative. On the other hand, those who know that millions responded to their country's call believe any amnesty undermines our nation's defense. The President has, in my opinion, struck the right chord for most Americans by adopting a course that falls between these groups. I am sorry you do not accept this decision. In time I hope you will come to believe that the President has acted wisely.

Sincerely,

Phillip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mr. Lee J. Price
34 E. Davis Boulevard
Tampa, Florida 33606



10/2/74

To: Dr. Marrs

From: Jay French

I think this is better
responded to by you.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Copies were given to

Hartmann
and Marsh



P. O. Box 1345
Roswell, New Mexico 88201
September 23, 1974.

Hon. Gerald Ford, President of the United States
White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20500.

Dear Mr. President:

Your anxiety to heal wounds by the mass amnesty route has resulted in a wound in your own Achilles heel by the arrow of draft evader resentment. I recently sent letters detailing an original plan first submitted by me to the White House August 18, 1970, to legislators presently holding office. One such letter went to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff because of a strong military interest. Realizing the amnesty subject would come up controversially in the future, my 1970 plan anticipated it by describing who should be amnestied and why. There was no proposal of general amnesty. Here is my plan, worked out through observation of all angles and based on many years of social experience all around.

First I proposed examination of all draft evaders who had already served in the armed forces, many in Vietnam. These men had been honorably discharged and called up for service again. This time they fled the country or hid inside it. These former veterans should have been considered for amnesty first of all. Extension to include those draft evaders who had been subjected to severe emotional strain, as in case of loss in family, could be made. Example: a report stated the case of an evader now in Sweden whose brother had been killed in Vietnam. I would send him home unconditionally amnestied at once. His brother paid for that. But I would not establish mass amnesty that would lump veterans, plain "resisters" and deliberate deserters into a single conditional category. This was one of your biggest mistakes, Mr. President. Already, veterans meeting in Canada have voiced anger at being included with those deserters. It has been said that your mind is predominantly aural than visual. This could be the Achilles heel of your well meant intentions. When Messrs. Saxbe and Schlesinger poured their wrong advice into your ears, you did not visualize the inevitable results. All men who have worn the uniform of their country and been officially recognized for it feel distinctive.

Here is what I would do about amnesty. First of all the men would not be forced to come to the United States and be processed by Justice Department lawyers or machine minded civilians wrapped in paper routines. Why put them and the government to needless expense? The 400 or so draft evaders in Sweden would be a pilot beginning. I would at once eliminate those who had become Swedish citizens. Next would be quick, understanding appraisal of those married to Swedish women to find amnesty eligibility and willingness to return to the U.S. Single men would follow. This design would be used in Canada city by city and province by province. At all times the impression of crowd conformity and mass inclusion would be carefully avoided, except in cases of outright military deserters. To place them with veterans or those grieving at family loss would be to insult all members of the armed forces honorably discharged past, present and future. It also should not be forgotten that many draft evaders do not want to reside in the States but would like to have their self exiled status cleared for free visits to the States and the peace of mind of self and families--another reason for rejection of the two year "work their way back" stipulation. What I stress here, Mr. President, is the loss of individual initiative impelling their destinies to function under what they felt were such unjustified conditions of draft, causing "resistance" to it, that brings resistance to your mass amnesty proposal. On television interview a draft evader said logically, "President Ford tried to please everybody and ended up pleasing nobody." Quite so. And, to this I would add, no President of the United States or head of any country can be all things to all men. I certainly hope this letter will be put right into your own hands to do something to stop a bad buck from stopping at your desk for more amnesty bedevilment. Best wishes to you.



Respectfully,

R. R. de Rougemont
R. R. de Rougemont.

RRdR:do

R. R. de Rougomont
P. O. Box 1345,
Roswell, New Mexico 88201.



Hon. Gerald Ford; President of the United States
White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.
Washington, D. C. 20500.

Att :
Messrs. Buchen, Hartmann, Marsh.
URGENT for the President.

10/2/74

To: Dr. Marre

From: Jay French

FYI



Department of Justice
Washington 20530

SEP 23 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Jay French
Office of the Counsel to
the President
The White House

FROM: *H.E.P.* Henry E. Petersen
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

Transmitted herewith is a copy of the recommended Immigration and Naturalization Service policy on applicants for admission to the United States pursuant to the Presidential Clemency Proclamation with respect to Vietnam draft resisters in situations where the United States citizenship of the applicant is in doubt.

The Deputy Attorney General has adopted the INS recommendation as the policy which will be followed by the Department.

Enclosure

*Jay -
This appears
ok! to me -
Jay*

*9/24 PC. to Lloyd Neman
Newsweek to ans. question*



SEP 23 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Jay French
Office of the Counsel to
the President
The White House

FROM: Henry E. Petersen
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

Transmitted herewith is a copy of the recommended Immigration and Naturalization Service policy on applicants for admission to the United States pursuant to the Presidential Clemency Proclamation with respect to Vietnam draft resisters in situations where the United States citizenship of the applicant is in doubt.

The Deputy Attorney General has adopted the INS recommendation as the policy which will be followed by the Department.

Enclosure



A citizen of the United States whether by birth or naturalization who has become expatriated is an alien and is not within the ambit of the Presidential Proclamation. If he presents himself at a port of entry in accordance with law before January 31, 1975, he should be treated in the following manner if he claims to be a citizen and his United States citizenship is in doubt:

- (a) At land border points of entry he shall be refused admission and advised when and where he may appear for a hearing before an Immigration judge. He shall not be paroled into the United States.
- (b) At other ports of entry the applicant shall be paroled into the United States and arrangements shall be made for an expeditious hearing before an Immigration judge, since the carrier cannot be ordered to remove the applicant from the United States until the matter of his United States citizenship has been resolved. This policy does not constitute authorization for a carrier to bring persons to the United States without passports or other documents which may be required by law or regulations.
- (c) In cases of a person under either (a) or (b) it will be the policy of the Department of Justice to grant 15 days to the applicant to apply for the amnesty privilege. If he is ultimately found to be a citizen of the United States, the 15 days will run from date of notification that he is a citizen of the United States.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date 10-4-74

TO: Jay French

FROM: DR. THEODORE C. MARRS

For your signature _____

For your coordination _____

For your information _____

Per our conversation _____

Other:

Eva file
ann
GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY

October 3, 1974

Dear Mr. Chairmans:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Howard W. Cannon
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI~~

TCM:ld
TCM-1



October 3, 1974

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable James O. Eastland
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc:~~ Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1



October 3, 1974

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable John L. McClellan
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc:~~ Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1



October 3, 1974

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Jennings Randolph
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI~~

TCM:ld
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Herman E. Talmadge
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc:~~ Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCH:ld
TCH-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Allen:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable James B. Allen
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
✓ per Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1



October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Bartlett:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Dewey F. Bartlett
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI~~

TCM:ld
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Bellmon:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Henry Bellmon
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1



October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Brock:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Bill Brock
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI~~

TCM:ld
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Byrd:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Robert C. Byrd
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Cotton:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Norris Cotton
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

~~cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI~~
~~cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI~~

TCM:ld
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Dole:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Robert Dole
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Fannin:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Paul J. Fannin
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI~~

TCM:ld
TCM-1



October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Goldwater:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Barry Goldwater
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc:~~ Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Griffin:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Robert P. Griffin
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:dl
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Gurney:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Edward J. Gurney
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Hansen:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Clifford P. Hansen
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Helms:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Jesse A. Helms
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc:~~ Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1



October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Hruska:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Roman L. Hruska
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc~~ Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Johnston:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable J. Bennett Johnston, Jr.
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc~~ Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator McClure:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable James A. McClure
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI~~

TCM:

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator McIntyre:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Thomas J. McIntyre
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Nunn:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Sam Nunn
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI~~

TCM:ld
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Percy:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Charles H. Percy
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1



October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Schweiker:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Richard S. Schweiker
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc~~ Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1

LIBRARY

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Young:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Milton R. Young
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1

J

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Thurmond:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Strom Thurmond
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI~~

TCM:ld
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Scott:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable William Lloyd Scott
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc~~ Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCM:ld
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Stafford:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Robert T. Stafford
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI~~

TCM:ld
TCM-1



October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Stevens:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Ted Stevens
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI~~

TCM:ld
TCM-1

October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Taft:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable Robert Taft, Jr.
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
~~cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI~~

TCM:ld
TCM-1



October 3, 1974

Dear Senator Tower:

The question of using draft evaders and deserters to work in Veterans Administration hospitals as a means of earned reentry was raised in your letter of September 18th to the President.

On behalf of the President I am pleased to assure you that there is no intent to have draft evaders or deserters perform their service in Veterans Administration hospitals.

As to taking jobs away from veterans, you may be assured that the President's guidelines have specifically stated that this is not to be the case. The Selective Service Director understands this and will insure that earned reentry work will be in areas where there are more jobs than available applicants. If there are specific questions in regard to this, the Director will be glad to answer them based on Selective Service experience with the conscientious objector program.

Sincerely,

Theodore C. Marrs
Special Assistant to the President

The Honorable John Tower
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

cc: Counsellor Marsh - FYI
cc: Mr. Jay French - FYI

TCH:ld
TCH-1

October 9, 1974

**MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Richard Kearney
General Counsel
Department of the Army**

FROM: Jay French

SUBJECT: Attached telegram

**Would you please assist me in replying to this telegram
from John J. Stang, National Commander-in-Chief, Veterans
of Foreign Wars of the U. S.**

Attachment



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 15, 1974

Dear Congressman Rangel:

The President has asked me to respond further to your letter of September seventeenth. You have proposed that the President consider an extension of the amnesty to include those who served in the armed forces, between the dates set forth in the Proclamation, and who received a less than honorable discharge.

The program as presently constructed already includes those persons who received any punitive discharge or an Undesirable Discharge for absentee offenses. The category of discharge not covered, of which you speak, are those administrative discharges above the level of Undesirable and below the level of Honorable. There are two reasons this category was excluded. First, by including this category there would be created an inequity since these persons would receive veterans benefits while most of those falling in the lower categories would not be eligible. Second, as a practical matter few service personnel were given a discharge for absentee offenses above the level of Undesirable.

I hope this response provides you with the information you seek.

Sincerely,

Philip W. Buchen
Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

The Honorable Charles B. Rangel
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515



October 15, 1974

Dear Congressman Rangel:

The President has asked me to respond further to your letter of September seventeenth. You have proposed that the President consider an extension of the amnesty to include those who served in the armed forces, between the dates set forth in the Proclamation, and who received a less than honorable discharge.

The program as presently constructed already includes those persons who received any punitive discharge or an Undesirable Discharge for absentee offenses. The category of discharge not covered, of which you speak, are those administrative discharges above the level of Undesirable and below the level of Honorable. There are two reasons this category was excluded. First, by including this category there would be created an inequity since these persons would receive veterans benefits while most of those falling in the lower categories would not be eligible. Second, as a practical matter few service personnel were given a discharge for absentee offenses above the level of Undesirable.

I hope this response provides you with the information you seek.

Sincerely,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

The Honorable Charles B. Rangel
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

cc: William Timmons
Dr. Ted Marrs



September 27, 1974

Dear Mr. Rangel:

I wish to acknowledge and thank you for your September 17 letter to the President urging that he consider extending amnesty to those who served in the Armed Forces and received less than honorable discharges, which in many instances were predicated on the individual's basic opposition to the Vietnam war.

You may be assured your letter will be called to the prompt attention of the President and the members of the staff who are charged with implementing the amnesty program. I am confident your views will be given careful study.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Max L. Friedlander
Deputy Assistant
to the President

The Honorable Charles S. Rangel
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

bcc: w/incoming to Philip Buchan for appropriate reply.
Please furnish this office of action taken
bcc: w/incoming to Stan Scott - for your information

MLF:BF:VO:kl



CHARLES B. RANGEL
19TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
NEW YORK

230 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
TELEPHONE: 202-225-4365

GEORGE A. DALLEY
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

COMMITTEES:
JUDICIARY
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

DISTRICT OFFICE:
144 WEST 125TH STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10027
TELEPHONE: 212-865-8600

MRS. VIRGINIA L. BELL
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

September 17, 1974

PLEASE RESPOND TO
OFFICE CHECKED:
 WASHINGTON
 NEW YORK

President
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I welcomed your announcement of a program to provide conditional amnesty to draft resisters and deserters of the Viet Nam era. In departing from your predecessors inhumane intransigent refusal to consider the question of amnesty you have shown courage and compassion. For this I applaud you.

I would urge you however, to consider extending your offer of amnesty to those who served in our armed forces during the Viet Nam conflict and were released with Less-Than-Honorable discharges.

Many men, particularly Blacks, went into the army because they knew of no alternatives or because the armed services were an escape from the harsh realities of ghetto life. They were drafted because they could not enter colleges which permitted access to student deferments, draft resistance counselling and other methods of avoiding service in this unpopular war.

When they were in the service however, they oftentimes reached the same state of revulsion against the immorality of the war that caused others to avoid the draft. At this point, they protested, but in a system that would not tolerate protest, they were subjected to disciplinary action and, ultimately, bad conduct and less-than-honorable discharges. The reasons for their protest were the same as the draft evaders, and they should not be penalized to a greater extent than those who because of economic circumstances were more able to evade the draft rather than protest the war from within.



President
September 17, 1974
Page -2-

I call upon you to exercise the quality of mercy and compassion which you have shown in granting amnesty to this larger group of men who are suffering because of their conscience opposition to an immoral war.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles B. Rangel". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

CHARLES B. RANGEL
Member of Congress

CBR:gl

Clemency

Wednesday 10/30/74

9:55 Jay said to tell you twice we have received a letter from this guy -- that's how he's aware there is one guy still in jail.

*Could we reply that this is a matter
which must be processed thru the
Clemency Board?*

P.

