

Way - Rodigan

Draft Reserves  
in Army Camps

MEMORANDUM BY SENATOR CARL HAYDEN URGING THE  
MAINTENANCE OF CIVILIAN CONSERVATION  
CORPS COMPANIES AT THE MAXIMUM  
STRENGTH

During the past summer and fall I had occasion to visit a large number of Civilian Conservation Corps Camps in my State and as a result of the observations made at that time may I respectfully suggest that in setting up the CCC as a permanent agency of the Government provision be made for prompt replacement of discharged enrollees through a system of continuous or monthly enrollment.

From the standpoint of the technical services involved in CCC Administration, a system of monthly enlistments to maintain company strength would be superior to ~~the present system of~~ enrollment in six month periods for the following reasons:

1. It would allow a continuous and unified work program based upon a steadily maintained maximum company strength, and would eliminate the present unsatisfactory condition whereby at the end of any enrollment period strength has so far fallen off that planned development programs cannot be completed for lack of personnel.
2. The number of leaders and assistant leaders, assigned to a company on the basis of its enlisted strength, would remain the same throughout the year, which would mean increased efficiency and improved morale on the work projects.

3. It would not be necessary to reduce the rank of such assistant leaders and leaders as I mention above, whenever enlisted strength was reduced, as is the present custom.

From the standpoint of the Army such a system as I am proposing would be advantageous for the following reasons:

1. Mess management would be stabilized at a fixed number, permitting more economical and better meals.
2. General morale would be improved by the elimination of a present tendency among the enlisted personnel to "soldier" on the job on the theory that Company Commanders are anxious to maintain enlisted strength at a maximum, and since replacements are not available except at six month intervals, there is little chance of being discharged except for gross insubordination, etc.
3. The work of the Army educational advisers could be planned on a stabilized and continued basis.

I am sending a copy of this memorandum to Mr. Robert Fecner, Director of Emergency Conservation Work, to Mr. W. Frank Persons, Director of the United States Employment Service, to Brigadier General G. P. Tyner of the War Department, to Mr. F. A. Silcox, Chief of the Forest Service, and to Mr. Conrad L. Wirth, Assistant Director of the National Park Service.

U. S. S.