

16 MAR 1971

Honorable Quentin N. Burdick
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Senator Burdick:

This is in further reply to your letter dated 18 February 1970 concerning the branch assignment of Cadet Ardell R. Faul, University of Miami.

Department of the Army policy is to assign each graduating cadet to a basic branch after consideration of his first three preferences, his academic major, Reserve Officers' Training Corps training, demonstrated abilities, and the needs of the service. Since the needs of the service must remain the controlling factor, not all cadets necessarily receive a branch assignment of their choice.

The cadets within each Reserve Officers' Training Corps unit are ranked according to merit by the Professor of Military Science and assigned to their preferred branch in priority sequence according to merit standing insofar as allocations permit. Cadet Faul's branch choices were Ordnance, Signal, and Air Defense Artillery. However, he did not place sufficiently high enough in the merit standing to receive one of his three choices. The Professor of Military Science, University of Miami, has been contacted and Cadet Faul has been interviewed and counseled concerning his branch assignment and active duty. Cadet Faul is considered presently qualified for commission upon graduation and for service in the branch of Field Artillery.

Cadet Faul entered into the Reserve Officers' Training Corps program voluntarily with an Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps scholarship which paid for his college tuition, fees, and textbooks, plus a \$50 monthly allowance and a Selective Service draft deferment for a four-year period. Since he did not graduate in June 1969, as scheduled, his draft deferment was extended an additional year.

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In exchange for the scholarship benefits received, Cadet Faul voluntarily incurred a contractual obligation to serve four years on active duty as an officer in the branch to which assigned, or subject himself to involuntary active duty in his Army Reserve enlisted grade for a like period if he willfully evades his contract or refuses to accept a commission.

Your interest in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

FRED E. HANSARD
Colonel, AGC
Adjutant General

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