

UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI  
CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA 33124

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY SCIENCE  
ARMY ROTC  
P. O. BOX 8166

8 June 1970

SUBJECT: Refusal of Commissioning - Mr. Ardell R. Faul

Commanding General  
Third United States Army  
ATTN: AJAGR  
Fort McPherson, Georgia 30330

1. On 5 June 1970 Mr. Ardell R. Faul refused to accept USAR commissioning in the Field Artillery.
2. Mr. Faul was a Four Year ROTC Scholarship student who transferred into the University of Miami from North Dakota State University in the fall of 1967. He completed his ROTC course of instruction in May 1969. He was held over one year in order to graduate, which he did at the end of this semester.
3. On 15 May 1970 Mr. Faul contacted me by telephone. He stated substantially the position he expressed in a subsequent letter dated 19 May 1970. (inclosure # 1) During the telephone conversation I told Mr. Faul that if he was as conscientious and as morally righteous as he claimed he should consider that he went to college on the taxpayers' money for four years, and in return he obligated himself to serve in the United States Army. I also told Mr. Faul that he was expected to be present at commissioning ceremonies on 5 June 1970 in order to accept his commission.
4. In turn I sent a letter to Mr. Faul for which his wife received. (inclosure # 2) The letter reminded him of his obligation, the possible consequences and informed him of the procedures for discharge by reason of being a conscientious objector.

*University of Miami*  
A private, independent, international university

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Mr. Faul has never replied to this letter nor taken the steps to apply for a discharge as a conscientious objector. Nor is he in fact a conscientious objector as prescribed in the Army Regulations. His objection is based upon self serving motives justified by a political philosophy against the United States involvement in South Asia. (inclosure # 1)

5. On the night of 5 June 1970 prior to the commissioning ceremonies Mr. Faul, his wife and his small daughter picketed the commissioning ceremonies with signs of various description. I twice ordered Mr. Faul to come inside to receive his commission. His only response was that he understood.

6. Section IV, AR 145-1 requires me to hold a board of officers to determine whether Mr. Faul has willfully evaded his contract. I am unable to do this because I will not have the minimum of three active duty Officers by reason of detail to summer camp. Furthermore most of the officers would be witnesses because they saw Mr. Faul, his wife and daughter picket the commissioning site. The Army Regulations also requires the recommendation of an institutional official. As regards to the disposition of Mr. Faul, Dr. Henry King Stanford, the President of the University saw Mr. Faul picket the site, was informed by me of the situation and is in accord with the Army taking whatever action is necessary.

7. Under these circumstances it seems quite redundant to have a board of officers act upon this case. This man should be called into service immediately. But if we have to go through the motions prescribed by the regulations then your Headquarters will have to appoint a board of officers because I am unable to constitute one composed of disinterested members.

2 Inclosures  
as

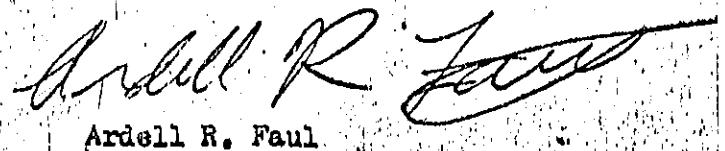
ARNDT L. MUELLER  
COLONEL, INFANTRY  
PROFESSOR OF MILITARY SCIENCE

19 May 1970

SUBJECT: Refusal of Commission

TO: Professor of Military Science  
Army R.O.T.C.  
University of Miami  
Coral Gables, Florida

1. My ideals in opposition to war and the United States involvement in South East Asia have recently crystallized. As a result of this I have decided that I cannot accept my commission in the United States Army. This letter is for the purpose of confirming our telephone conversation of May 15, 1970.
2. I believe there can be no justification for the United States taking the lives of North Vietnamese and Cambodians, as well as South Vietnamese. I do not believe the war can be justified in face of the violence it has triggered here. I cannot, in good faith, allow myself to become part of an establishment that vows it is fighting for the right of self-determination for the people in a foreign country, while it is increasingly denying its own citizens that same right.
3. I am sending a copy of this letter to my local draft board.



Ardell R. Faul

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