

507.3 Streeter, Ruth

Per

January 21, 1942.

Mrs. Thomas W. Streeter,^s
Sussex Avenue,
Morristown, New Jersey.

Dear Mrs. Streeter:

I think your suggestions are splendid and wish
to thank you..

I wish that we could have included them on the
application blanks when they originally went out. However,
I think we will have to send out a separate blank to each
of the enlisted men containing the three questions which
you have suggested.

Sincerely yours,

Earle L. Johnson
Executive Officer

Johnson:hlb

FILE COPY

State Guard

Complaining

Newark Evening News

Jan. 9th

Members' Dissatisfaction May Speed Edison Plan for Reorganization

1942

Trenton Bureau.

TRENTON—Action by Governor Edison on a drastic reorganization plan for the State Guard was expected today to be accelerated by reports of widespread dissatisfaction among guard members.

Officers of one company admitted that 19 of their 40 men submitted applications for discharges when they ended their prescribed two weeks of field duty. From other units came reports of situations which followed the same line.

Principal Complaints

Chief complaints are:

That many men enlisted in the belief they would be called to active duty only in an acute emergency.

That these men are proprietors of businesses or wage earners whose incomes would be curtailed and whose families would suffer accordingly.

That originally the guard was contemplated as a purely police unit to aid State Police and local authorities in civilian disturbances beyond the control of those agencies.

That, in December, despite the authorization of 100 additional State Police and the appointment of additional police in many municipalities, the guard was called to two-week duty periods, swinging more to the purely military aspect.

That the guard, in its present size and organization, is incapable of performing its assigned duties of guarding bridges, roads and other vital state property.

That supplies, particularly of uniforms, are inadequate for outdoor patrolling in frigid weather.

Age Limits Changed

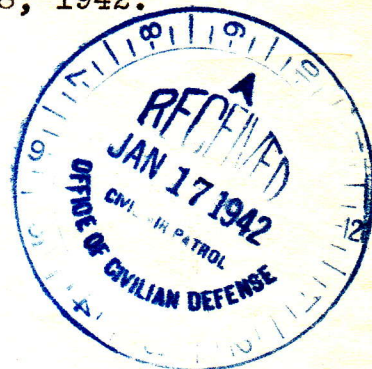
The guard already has changed its age limits for enlistments from 28-50 to 18-45. This was effected to create a pool of younger men who would be available for field duty at less physical or financial hardship.

The reorganization plan under consideration by Edison was prepared by Brigadier General Lewis B. Ballantyne, commander of the guard; Lieutenant Colonel Theodore F. Voelter, executive officer, and Lieutenant Colonel Edgar N. Bloomer, acting state adjutant general.

Guard headquarters has declined to divulge details of the plan pending a decision by Edison. It is believed the reorganization will provide that in certain cases of hardship some guard members will be withheld from active duty unless in extreme emergency. Men who through age or financial position are more available for the field, it is believed, will be organized as the active force.

January 8, 1942.

✓ gm
Major General John F. Curry
National Commander of Civil Air Patrol,
Office of Civilian Defense,
Washington, D. C.



My dear General Curry,

I had the pleasure of hearing you speak at La Guardia Field last Sunday and all of us civilian pilots were greatly impressed with the open-minded and energetic way in which you were taking hold of the situation.

With the approval of our New Jersey Wing Commander, Mr. Viehmann, I am writing one suggestion as a result of the experience we have had in this state with our State Guard.

Most of them were older men with families, good jobs, or small businesses; and they enlisted definitely on a part-time basis, expecting to be called out only for short periods in occasional emergencies - much the same as the C.A.P. Then after Pearl Harbor, they were assigned to guard bridges etc. for two weeks out of every six weeks at \$1.50 per day; and lots of them couldn't do it. So the State Guard is now planning to organize a First Line, available for continuous duty; and a Second Line, available only for emergency duty.

Many of us believe that a great deal of use can be made of the C.A.P. at once and on a full-time basis. For instance, the 1000 instructors whom General Arnold wanted would certainly be full time; and the 500 ferry pilots would soon need to be.

My suggestion is that at some stage - preferably as soon as possible - you add to the C.A.P. questionnaire such questions as:

- 1) Are you available for full-time service?
- 2) Will you serve anywhere in the U.S.A.? Or only in a limited area, such as
- 3) Would you accept a salary scale based on \$125 per month for a Private Pilot with 100 solo hours; and increased pay for greater experience?
(or whatever qualifications and salary you prefer)

Maj. Gen. James F. Curry

January 8, 1942.

- 2 -

The present C.A.P. publicity says that members will not be placed on full time or combat duty "unless they volunteer". But people with considerable civil responsibilities hesitate to drop them and volunteer unless they know there is a definite need; and from the present questionnaire, you cannot tell which ones would be available for First Line duty and which can only be called on for Second Line duty.

I am anxious to have the C.A.P. meet satisfactorily any calls that may be made upon it; and hope you may find this suggestion useful to that end.

Sincerely yours,

Ruth Cheney Streeter

Provisional Adjutant,
Metropolitan New Jersey Group C.A.D.S.

(Mrs. Thomas W. Streeter)
Sussex Avenue,
Morristown, New Jersey.