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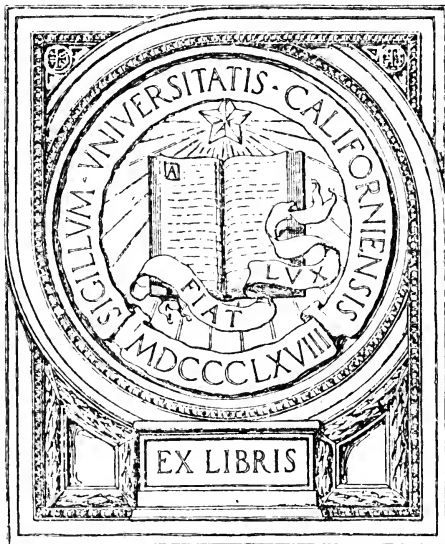
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**STUDY ON
THE UTILIZATION OF OUR RESOURCES IN VARIOUS
MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND OF THE
SERVICES OF TRAINED SPECIALISTS**

**PREPARED BY THE WAR COLLEGE DIVISION, GENERAL STAFF CORPS
AS A SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEMENT OF A PROPER MILITARY
POLICY FOR THE UNITED STATES**

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STUDY ON THE UTILIZATION OF OUR RESOURCES IN VARIOUS MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND OF THE SERVICES OF TRAINED SPECIALISTS.

PRESENT STATUS.

1. *Motor transport.*—Automobiles can now be manufactured in the United States at the rate of over 50,000 per month, motor trucks at the rate of about 5,000 per month, and motorcycles at the rate of about 4,000 per month. There are now about 1,500,000 motor cars, 140,000 motor trucks, and 100,000 motorcycles in the United States. An army of 1,000,000 men might need about 4,000 motor cars, 4,000 motorcycles, and 24,000 motor trucks.

2. Only a small proportion of existing motor vehicles are suitable for military service, and in view of the small number of such vehicles required and the rapidity with which they can be manufactured, it would be neither economical nor wise to plan upon using any and all kinds of motors offered for service.

Accepting and using old motor vehicles of many different models when new ones of a few good models can be obtained as soon as needed would result in poor transportation and great cost for the United States. It is, therefore, not planned to use every vehicle that may be presented, but rather to accept individuals as chauffeurs and mechanics, and only such vehicles as may be of an approved type and serviceable. A bonus might encourage the accumulation of suitable types of motor vehicles, but it is not thought to be necessary.

3. The type of motor ambulance best suited for military use in this country is now under consideration by a board of Army medical officers. Few automobile ambulances suitable for military purposes are available at present, and most of them will probably continue to be needed by the cities, hospitals, etc., now using them.

Types of motor trucks and tractors for use in the other departments of the Army are under trial and study at the present time.

4. *Aircraft.*—No private aircraft suitable for military purposes are known to be available to the Federal Government at present. It is estimated that military aeroplanes can be manufactured in this country at the rate of about 200 per month. The few civilian aero pilots or mechanics available in this country will be commissioned

or enlisted, but only machines of approved types should be taken over; all others should be purchased new.

5. *Medical personnel.*—Civilian physicians, trained nurses, hospital attendants, pharmacists, laboratory workers, etc., who volunteer for military service may be utilized in certain positions in the Medical Department, which is attempting to improve the Medical Reserve Corps and to perfect organizations comprising all the necessary personnel of complete sanitary units in various localities. These units will be listed, kept track of, and used as far as possible in time of war.

6. *Ordnance personnel.*—Civilians suitable for employment in the Ordnance Department who volunteer for military service are to be utilized as officers, etc., in that department according to their qualifications. Information regarding this is contained in General Orders, No. 3, Office of the Chief of Ordnance, United States Army, August 25, 1913, and in War Department General Orders, No. 57, 1909, and No. 26, 1911.

7. *Signal Corps personnel.*—Civilian telegraphers, telephone operatives, aviators, etc., to be employed with the military forces are to be organized and used in that corps as men of similar qualifications are organized and employed in the regular Signal Corps, field and telegraph battalions, and aero squadrons. Other telegraph and telephone operatives working for military forces are to be organized, employed, and controlled about as they habitually are for their work in civil life.

8. *Engineer personnel.*—Volunteer civilian railroad builders and operators, bridge builders, civil, mechanical, and other engineers can now have their names placed on an eligible list (G. O., 57, 1909, as amended), and in time of war will be offered commissions as engineer staff officers or in engineer organizations. These organizations will be pioneer, ponton, or railway battalions or regiments wherein will be found need for specialists in all branches of engineering, in the various building trades and mechanic arts, and in the construction, operation, and maintenance of railways.

9. *Quartermaster personnel.*—Volunteer civilians having special training in handling transportation or knowledge of other quartermaster duties are to be organized and employed in the Quartermaster Corps in a manner similar to that described for the other departments. Individual experts can have their names placed on the eligible list. When volunteers are authorized, motor-truck companies, wagon companies, bakery companies, etc., will be organized, and the necessary number and class of experts will be commissioned in the Quartermaster Corps.

10. The foregoing are the plans of the various departments of the Army, but aside from the laws providing for the Medical Reserve

Corps and for the list of persons eligible for volunteer commissions there are no provisions of law that authorize any measures of preparedness along the lines indicated. Neither in the Medical Reserve Corps nor in the "List of eligibles" is there a dependable source of officers, for there is absolutely no assurance that any of them will respond when their services are required, nor is there any provision in the laws compelling them to do so.

WAR COLLEGE PLANS.

11. The War College Division recommends utilizing these great resources of the Nation in men and matériel in two ways: First, by forming the various units that make up divisions, and lines of communications, etc.; and, second, by commissioning individuals whose personal abilities make them desirable for planning in time of peace and for execution in time of war.

These two methods which require legislation are to be put into operation as follows:

(a) Organizations such as motor-truck companies, motor-cycle companies, motor-ambulance companies, etc., are to be provided for in a civilian force, organized and trained in time of peace, and for convenience called the continental army. They can be formed in such numbers as the law may authorize and the Secretary of War may direct.

(b) Individual experts will be provided for in an officers' reserve corps. It is proposed, in time of peace, to commission as reserve officers all kinds of experts from civil life in such numbers and proportions as the law may authorize and the Secretary of War may direct.

12. In connection with this subject it is submitted that without legislation authorizing this civilian army and the officers' reserve corps nothing can be done that is of the least value. Peace-time volunteer organizations, unsanctioned by law, can not be relied upon for use in time of war; they can be of value only when their members are legally bound to render military service to the United States for a fixed period and to serve in the armies in any war that may occur during that period if legally called upon to do so.

13. *Methods suggested.*—The following is an outline of how the War College Division plans to utilize the national resources heretofore discussed, if authority therefor can be obtained from Congress:

A. IN THE CONTINENTAL ARMY.

- (1) *Motor truck companies.* Organized and trained under the Quartermaster Corps. These will include chauffeurs, drivers, mechanics, etc.
- (2) *General hospital units;*
- (3) *Base hospital units;*

- (4) *Field hospital companies; and*
- (5) *Ambulance companies.*

Organized and trained under the Medical Corps. These will include physicians, surgeons, pharmacists, hospital assistants, nurses, laboratory assistants, chauffeurs, drivers, mechanics, etc.

- (6) *Field battalions, Signal Corps;*
- (7) *Telegraph battalions, Signal Corps; and*
- (8) *Aero squadrons.*

These will be organized and trained under the Signal Corps and will include telephone and telegraph engineers, wireless experts, and aero pilots, telephone, telegraph, and wireless operators, and mechanics, mechanics, chauffeurs, motorcycle men, etc.

- (9) *Railway regiments.*
- (10) *Engineer regiments.*

These will be organized and trained under the Corps of Engineers and will include railway officials and engineers, civil, mechanical, electrical, and other engineers; enginemen, firemen, conductors, brakemen, train dispatchers, signalmen, bridgemen, trackmen, machinists, and all other railway operatives. They will also include carpenters, blacksmiths, mechanics, draftsmen, surveyors, lithographers, etc.

B. IN THE OFFICERS' RESERVE CORPS. (A reserve of officers to replace casualties in organizations of the Regular, Continental, and Volunteer Armies.)

- (1) *Quartermaster Corps.* Automobile engineers and experts, wagon and other vehicle experts, railway transportation experts.
- (2) *Medical Corps.* Physicians, surgeons, chemists, dentists, hospital superintendents, laboratory experts, sanitary experts, etc.
- (3) *Signal Corps.* Telephone, telegraph, and wireless engineers, aero pilots.
- (4) *Corps of Engineers.* Civil, mechanical, electrical, and other engineers; railway officials, including experts in the operating, maintenance of way, bridges and buildings, signal, motive power, car building, car repairing, and other departments.

LEGISLATION.

14. The draft of a proposed bill to authorize a civilian force, called herein the Continental Army, will be submitted in the near future, if desired. It is now under preparation.

15. The draft of a proposed bill to authorize the officers' reserve corps was submitted in War College Division memorandum No. 9153-2, 1915.

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