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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 22, 1976

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JAMES T. LYNN

FROM:

JAMES E. CONNOR *JEC*

SUBJECT:

Junior ROTC Program

The President reviewed your memorandum of April 19 and made the following notation:

"No cutback, if anything I favor more - if they,
as units, meet criteria."

The President also corrected that this information was received from Congresswoman Spellman not Sullivan.

Please follow-up with appropriate action.

cc: Dick Cheney

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 21, 1976

MR PRESIDENT:

The attached report was prepared at your request following receipt of information from Congresswoman ~~Sullivan~~ concerning the Junior ROTC Problem in Florida.

Jim Bonno

Sullivan

No cutback, if
anything 2 favor more of
they, as units, not
criteria.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

APR 19 1976

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
FROM: JAMES T. LYNN
SUBJECT: Junior ROTC Programs

Background

Public Law 88-647, the ROTC Vitalization Act of 1964, required the Secretary of each of the Military Departments to establish and maintain Junior ROTC units. Prior to this, only the Army had a program which had been implemented in the fall of 1919 with about 45,000 students. Leading up to this act was an unsuccessful attempt by the Department of Defense in the fall of 1962 to eliminate support for public high school units, but continue support of military schools at the high school level.

JROTC is a cooperative program between the services and the host high schools with a stated purpose of providing secondary school students "an opportunity to learn about the basic elements and requirements for national security and their personal obligations as Americans to contribute to national security." The students must be at least 14 years of age and citizens of the United States, study military sciences in addition to the high school academic program, and drill. Course membership is limited to students who maintain academic and discipline standards established by the Military Departments. Schools are required to provide adequate classroom facilities, equipment storage space, drill areas, employ retired officer and enlisted instructors, and conduct as a minimum a three-year course of military instruction.

Budget and Fiscal Data

There are 1,200 units authorized in law and 1,200 are operational at present with an enrollment of approximately 181,000 students. Of that number, approximately 52,000 are females. Service funding support totaling \$25M for FY 1977 includes authorized Government equipment, uniforms, instructional material, and one-half the difference between each instructor's retired military pay and what he would receive if on active duty.

Criteria for Disestablishment of JROTC Units

Units which are in at least their second year of enrollment and do not have the 100-student statutory minimum will be placed on probation immediately. Based on an evaluation of the unit's potential to meet the minimum enrollment, the unit may be disestablished at the end of the current year or continue until the fall school term before official notification of disestablishment, if the enrollment minimums have not been met. In addition, failure of a unit to meet standards specified in appropriate service directives can result in disestablishment.

Legislative Proposals

There are currently a number of bills that have been introduced in the Congress which would affect JROTC.

- ° H.R. 8937, Young of Florida, would allow an unlimited number of JROTC units.
- ° H.R. 10458, Dellums of California, would eliminate JROTC.
- ° H.R. 11535, Spellman of Maryland, and H.R. 10234, Whitehurst of Virginia, would allow students entering the JROTC program to complete the program before a unit was disestablished.
- ° H.R. 12438, Defense Authorization, Section 707, would increase the number of authorized units from 1,200 to 2,000 and permit more than one unit at each school.

Administration Position

With respect to proposed legislation, Defense has taken a position of lukewarm support for continuation of the JROTC program at current levels but opposes any increase. Opposition is primarily on the basis that more units would drastically increase the funding of a low priority program, probably at the expense of other training or educational programs, during a period of fiscal constraint.

A reexamination of the JROTC program in the context of its contribution to Defense manpower requirements has been identified as one of the Executive Branch's initiatives for improving the effectiveness of Federal programs. The study is to be conducted by the Department of Defense.

JROTC Problems in Florida

Only one Florida JROTC "problem" has come to the recent attention of the Department of Defense. Judge Elizabeth Kovachevich, Sixth Judicial Circuit in Florida, was instrumental in getting Representative Young from Florida to introduce H.R. 8937. Judge Kovachevich feels that JROTC has a positive effect in reducing juvenile delinquency. Consequently, she wants more units in Florida. She is also a member of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS).

Defense indicates there are presently about 75 units in Florida. Since 1974, seven units have been established, while five were disestablished due to lack of enrollment.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 24, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JAMES T. LYNN
DIRECTOR, OMB

FROM: JAMES E. CONNOR
SECRETARY TO THE CABINET

Jim, attached are two items related to ROTC.

1. The first is, I think, self-explanatory concerning Bradley University. If you would respond to Mr. Abegg of Bradley University using the information in the draft attached by Bill Greener, modified as you think appropriate, it would be appreciated. Please send me a copy of your response to Mr. Abegg so we can have the record complete.
2. Attached is some material Congresswoman Sullivan gave to the President at the signing ceremony on March 22nd. I, think it, too, is self-explanatory, but you will note the President has asked that we check this out. Perhaps you could put together a brief information memo for the President on the situation. Thanks.

encls.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MARCH 23, 1976

CONGRESSWOMAN SULLIVAN GAVE THIS TO THE PRESIDENT AT THE TRUTH IN LEASING BILL SIGNING IN THE ROSE GARDEN TODAY, MARCH 22.

SHE SAID THIS WOULD BE OF INTEREST REGARDING THE JUNIOR ROTC PROBLEM THAT CAME TO THE PRESIDENT'S ATTENTION IN FLORIDA

NEITHER THE PRESIDENT NOR I REMEMBER ANY ROTC PROBLEM IN FLORIDA. WE DO RECALL THE ROTC PROBLEM AT BRADLEY UNIVERSITY. PERHAPS MRS. SULLIVAN IS CONFUSED.

AT ANY RATE, THE PRESIDENT ASKED THAT THIS WE CHECKED OUT.

TERRY O'DONNELL

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GLADYS NOON SPELLMAN
5TH DISTRICT, MARYLAND

COMMITTEES:
BANKING, CURRENCY
AND HOUSING
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE

February 17, 1976

Dear Colleague:

I am addressing this only to those Members who have, as I have, a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps program about to be dropped. A number of these units are being forced to cancel their programs at the end of the current school year (June 1976), because their enrollments have fallen below the presently required 100 student minimum. In my opinion, the termination of these programs would be an injustice to the many students who entered the programs in good faith and wish to complete them.

In hopes of preventing the cancellation of those programs where enrollments have fallen below the required limit, I have sponsored a bill, H.R. 11535, which will enable enrolled students to complete the course. I am sure students in your District will be grateful for such an opportunity.

If you desire to cosponsor this legislation or if you need any further information concerning this matter please contact Ed Jayne of my staff, on 5-8718.

Sincerely,


Gladys Noon Spellman
Member of Congress

94TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 11535

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 27, 1976

Mrs. SPELLMAN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To amend title 10 of the United States Code in order to provide for a continuation of Junior Reserve Training Corps units, in order to allow course completion by those currently enrolled, regardless of unit size.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That section 2031 (b) (1) of title 10, United States Code,
4 is amended to read as follows:

5 “(1) the unit contains at least 100 physically fit
6 students who are at least 14 years of age and are citizens
7 of the United States, except that if in any academic year
8 the enrollment in any unit is less than 100 such students
9 and during the next succeeding academic year (hereafter

1 referred to in this paragraph as the 'probationary year')
2 the enrollment is also less than 100 such students, the
3 unit shall be disbanded but not before the close of the
4 academic year in which students first enrolling in the
5 unit during the probationary year would ordinarily
6 complete the course of military instruction provided at
7 the institution;".

94TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 11535

A BILL

To amend title 10 of the United States Code in order to provide for a continuation of the Junior Reserve Training Corps units, in order to allow course completion by those currently enrolled, regardless of unit size.

By Mrs. SPELMAN

JANUARY 27, 1976

Referred to the Committee on Armed Services