THE NAVY NEEDS ENGINEERS

(Official Release, U. S. Navy)

The Navy needs men whose engineering training and experience can be carried directly into the Service for work very similar to that which they are now doing. It also needs men whose engineering background gives promise that they can readily learn duties which are peculiar to the Navy. To candidates qualifying, the Navy offers compensation varying from $216 a month to $416 a month. Most officers who have been commissioned in recent months have accepted a definite reduction in income, finding their chief compensation in the fact that they are serving their country to their highest ability.

Before considering the various specific fields in which the Navy needs officers it might be well to point out that engineering training coupled with executive experience is sufficient in itself in many cases to qualify an individual for a commission, and also to indicate that hobbies such as an interest in aviation, practical experience in photography, knowledge of navigation, and many others will oftentimes make a man valuable to the Service.

Turning now to the specific fields of Naval activity in which engineers are being commissioned, the first is the classification which includes nearly all phases of aviation from aeronautical engineering through airport managers, meteorologists, pilots, and ground school instructors to men whose executive experience qualifies them for administrative positions in the ground organization. Men with engineering degrees who have had experience in any of these fields are, in most cases, eligible to make application. In addition, fliers and men having an expert knowledge of firearms may often apply even if they have not completed their formal education.

The Communications Classification offers commissions to men who are qualified in any form of communication operation such as radio, telegraph, telephone, underwater sound, various forms of visual signalling, traffic cable operation, etc. Any engineering degree is acceptable. Men who have made a study or a hobby of cryptanalysis have an excellent chance of being accepted by the Navy.

The ship construction officers in the Navy are drawn almost entirely from men possessing a degree in Naval architecture but other engineers and architects who have had practical experience in shipyard work will also be considered.

The Civil Engineers Corps of the Navy covers a much wider range of activities than its name would imply. It designs and constructs docks, dry docks, railroads, air fields, hospitals, radio installations, and nearly all other structures used by the Navy with the exception of ships and ordnance. The primary need at this time is for civil engineering graduates who have had at least three years of practical experience but there are opportunities also for electrical, mechanical and architectural engineers.

Instructors of midshipmen are also needed. These men should be graduate engineers who have had experience as instructors in physics, chemistry, or Diesel, electrical, mechanical and radio engineering. A few mathematics instructors are also desired.

The most desirable background for the classification of security officers is considered to be an engineering degree and practical experience in the field of fire prevention. Men with related lines of experience, for example along the line of industrial plant inspection, are also eligible for commissions as security officers.

It goes without saying that engineers who have had practical experience in the operation of ship's machinery are very much in demand. The rank which they are given is dependent upon their age, their years of practical experience and the size of the vessels on which they have served. Engineers who are familiar with boilers, turbines, sound engineering, fuel oils, testing and welding, can often be used either in the field in which they have specialized or else, after a brief training period, in related types of engineering activity. Principal emphasis is on mechanical, electrical and Diesel engineering graduates but other engineering degrees are not overlooked. Men under thirty-five years of age are desired for this class.

Chemists and chemical engineers, especially those who have had some experience with explosives are commissioned in the Ordnance Bureau but they are being accepted only in limited numbers at the present time.

There is a very urgent need for men who can be trained to handle the Navy's ultra-high-frequency detection equipment.

This program carries with it commissions in any one of a number of the specialized departments in the Navy and involves a training period three or four months in duration after the commission has been issued. Men having a degree in electrical, radio, or communications engineering are well qualified for this work, but men who have an engineering degree of any sort and some practical experience in radio and electrical work should have little difficulty in mastering the subject, and men who have not completed college or who perhaps have had no college training at all may, by virtue of extensive practical experience in the field of electricity or radio, be highly desirable candidates. In selecting this group the emphasis is placed on men who have built their own equipment or done other original work rather than upon those who have performed purely routine operations.

This brief outline covers the needs of the Navy at the present time. Quotas and requirements change, and any individual who is interested in placing his engineering training and experience at the service of his country may obtain more detailed information at the nearest office or branch office of the Director of Naval Officer Procurement of his particular Naval District. The Office of the Director for the Eleventh Naval District is located in Los Angeles at 850 Lilac Terrace, just south of the tunnels on North Figueroa Street. Branch offices are located in the Bank of America Building, San Diego; Heard Building, Phoenix, Arizona; and the Stadium Building, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

THE ARMY NEEDS ENGINEERS

(Official Information, U. S. Army)

It is noted that one of the recent developments of the Army calls for a considerable number of trained engineers and men learned in scientific fields.

The usual method provided for obtaining the services of these men, is through the adapted method of enlistment. Classification is made immediately following enlistment and any applicant who holds a degree can, when he finishes a course in basic training, be sent to the appropriate school for further training which eventually leads to a commission in the Army. However, maintenance and repair of the physical plant at all Army Posts is the responsibility of the Corps of Engineers. Due to the expansion in troop housing, the Army is in need of some 500 engineers with experience in road building, repair and maintenance of buildings, water supply, sewage disposal, operation and maintenance of steam plants, domestic heating, or operation and maintenance of electric systems.

The engineers selected for organizing and directing the utilities duties outlined above will be commissioned as captains, first lieutenants or 2nd lieutenants in the Army of the United States, or in the Army Specialist Corps as Post Utilities Officers. As Post Utilities Officers and Assistant-Post Utilities Officers, they will direct the work of a staff of civilian engineers and operating personnel or of technical service troops at Army Posts.

The Office of the Chief of Engineers, War Department, Washington, D. C., will be glad to receive applications from qualified individuals. The name, address, age, principal field of education and experience record should be supplied. On receipt of this information, interviews will be arranged at convenient locations throughout the country. Engineers selected for commissions will be ordered to Washington, D. C., for two weeks' training before assignment to an Army Post.