

May 4, 1951

Memorandum to Senator Johnson:

In accordance with your request for information concerning Mr. Ira C. Driver's problem, the following is submitted:

Mr. Amon G. Carter is interested and has handed you the attached wire which he has received from the City Manager of Fort Worth.

Mr. Ira C. Driver holds the rank of Lieutenant in the United States Naval Reserve. His serial number is 259 905. Lt. Driver has participated in the Naval Reserve program for several months and has actively pursued the program of the organized reserve unit to which he is assigned. He has been receiving regular drill pay and has attended drill meetings on a regular basis. As you know, it is the policy of the Navy Department to recall organized reservists who have been participating before calling the volunteer reservists who have been inactive.

It is possible to consider Lt. Driver for deferment on one or two conditions:

1. His return to active duty with the Navy would inflict upon him great personal hardship. The hardship could be for health reasons for himself or members of his family -- or perhaps financial hardships.
2. That Lt. Driver is employed in an essential position in industry or government, and it would be detrimental to the defense effort were he not retained in his position.

In the first instance, it will be necessary for Lt. Driver to make the request for deferment himself. Any request which he should make should be accompanied by the proper statements and affidavits outlining the reasons why he is requesting a delay in reporting. In the second instance, the organization which is employing Lt. Driver can make the request for deferment in the Lieutenant's behalf. That would be the City of Fort Worth, of course. Again, proper statements and affidavits should support the written request.

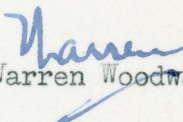
In making application, Lt. Driver or the City of Fort Worth should address the letter of request to the Chief of Naval Personnel and ask for indefinite deferment. This letter should be sent through the Commandant of the 8th Naval District, New Orleans, Louisiana. In the event an application for deferment should be made, I have been assured that

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it will be given close consideration in view of the unusual circumstances involved. For that reason, it might be helpful if Lt. Driver or the City of Fort Worth would make available to you a copy of any application which is submitted in order that you might bring it to the attention of the Deferment Board here.

Apparently Lt. Driver is reluctant to make any special efforts in his own behalf. For that reason, the second course listed above looks preferable. In any event, the Navy requires that action on the case be initiated either by the officer himself or his employer. Nothing can be done until this is accomplished. The Navy officials with whom I talked, feel that the facts as presented are meritorious and suggest strongly that the proper papers be started through Navy channels for further consideration.

Time is important, so I believe you should suggest to Mr. Carter and Lt. Driver that there be no delay in getting underway.


Warren Woodward