

(A) INTERNATIONAL NEGOTIATIONS AND AGREEMENTS

1. Application of compulsory military service to aliens and certain other groups previously exempt, press statement of October 1, 1942.

1. Up to the present time the regulations respecting compulsory military service under the National Resources Mobilization Act have applied only to British subjects "ordinarily resident in Canada". Nationals of Allied countries in Canada have not been compelled to do military service, either in the forces of their own country or in the forces of Canada. Certain British subjects who have been in Canada for over a year have not been liable to military service merely because they "belong" to some other part of the Commonwealth and are "ordinarily resident" there. The Canadian Government has now taken action to remove these inequities.

2. Declarant Aliens. - First, provision is being made for recognition of the status of aliens who wish to become Canadian citizens. Such aliens may become "declarant aliens". All declarant aliens have, by an amendment to the National War Services (Recruits) Regulations, been made liable to compulsory military service on the same basis as Canadians. By Orders-in-Council which have been passed under the War Measures Act a "first paper" procedure has been established analogous to that existing in the United States. Henceforth, a man or woman who has reached the age of eighteen years and who desires to be naturalized must, at least one year before he petitions for naturalization, file a declaration of intention before the Clerk of the Court in the judicial district in which he resides. The declaration of intention consists of a declaration by the alien that he intends in good faith to become a British subject and to reside permanently in Canada and that before being naturalized he will renounce his former allegiance. The Secretary of State has power to refuse to accept a declaration from an alien whom he does not consider fit to become a British subject. A person from whom a declaration of intention is accepted will be a "declarant alien" and other aliens will be "non-declarant aliens". The machinery for accepting declarations of intention is now in process of being set up by the Secretary of State. It will not be in operation until January 1, 1943. All aliens in Canada who have reached the age of eighteen years and who intend to make Canada their permanent home will have the opportunity after the New Year to apply for the status of "declarant aliens" and by so doing show their willingness to accept voluntarily the same liability to compulsory military service as citizens of Canada.

3. Non-Declarant Aliens.

(a) United States citizens - United States citizens in Canada are from now on subject to compulsory military service on the same basis as Canadians, with the proviso that