

NEWS IN BRIEF

● **FULBRIGHT CUTS DEEPEN:** Cutbacks in the number of American students participating in the Fulbright program will be even greater than anticipated earlier (*Science*, 30 August). The Institute of International Education (IIE), which administers the Fulbright program for the government, says that postdoctoral research and the creative and performing arts will be hardest hit. There will be no Fulbright grants to the United Kingdom for Americans. All American student grants to Japan, Malaysia, and the Philippines have been eliminated; all teaching assistantships to India and Japan have also been withdrawn. There has been no change, however, in the number of U.S. travel grants to Eastern European countries. Final plans for Western European countries are still unclear.

● **MISSING:** A research plane being used by University of Wisconsin scientists to conduct atmospheric research over Lake Superior was reported missing on 23 October with a graduate student and two pilots aboard. The plane, which was on one of a long series of flights conducted to study the effect of heat contributions to the atmosphere by water surfaces in the Great Lakes region, customarily flew at an altitude of 1000 feet to take temperature measurements of the lake surface by infrared radiometry. The Coast Guard has reported sighting some debris, including a seat cushion, in the area, but no positive identifications have been made. The plane was supplied by the National Center for Atmospheric Research in a continuing National Science Foundation program to provide universities with research facilities.

● **PROFESSOR LBJ:** President Johnson says he is willing to be a visiting lecturer discussing national and international problems at colleges and universities after he leaves the White House next January. Johnson has received more than 40 invitations from academic institutions and has agreed to teach a series of seminars at Rice University next spring. He also plans to lecture in the future at the Lyndon Baines Johnson School of Public Affairs, at the University of Texas, and at Southwest Texas State College in San Marcos. Johnson is reported to have said that he does not want to meet any 8 o'clock classes.

40,000 men in the latter part of 1969. In the 1-A manpower pool, the oldest men are taken first; this will usually mean that graduate students and recent college graduates will be among the first to receive induction notices.

Betty Vetter, the executive director of the Scientific Manpower Commission in Washington, predicts that, while the percentage of college graduates among draftees was as low as 4 percent this past February, the percentage of college graduates among new draftees will have risen to 90 percent by next spring. She argues that the United States will have, without doubt, "the most highly educated military force in the world."

Appeals Being Exhausted

Other reasons for the failure to draft more graduate students in past months include the slowness of local draft boards in reclassifying students and the fact that many of those who have been reclassified have appealed, thereby slowing down the induction process. For many, the appeal channels have been exhausted, and in coming months these students will be prime targets for induction. Principal explanations for the failure of graduate-student enrollments to decline as had been anticipated include: (i) some graduate schools admitted more students than usual; (ii) many students enrolled in graduate school this autumn despite the knowledge that they are now eligible for the draft. "There have been a surprising number of gamblers," comments Mrs. Vetter, who is coordinating a nationwide study of graduate school enrollments in the natural sciences.

Some of these students were prompted to enroll by the knowledge that they would retain, at the conclusion of their military service, the federally financed scholarships (such as NSF fellowships) that have been awarded them. If they had not accepted these scholarships now, they would have had to compete again after returning from military service.

A large number of students enrolled because they felt they would at least be able to finish the term in which they started. This hope had been given substance when General Lewis B. Hershey, national director of the Selective Service System, met with educators in March. Although there is no legal provision that a graduate student must be allowed to finish the term in which he receives his induction notice, General Hershey told the educators that he

would give consideration to the use of his limited postponement authority in individual cases where the facts clearly demonstrated the good faith of a registrant who receives his draft call in the middle of a semester. Mrs. Vetter estimates that, on the basis of Hershey's assurance, 90 percent of the men classified as 1-A enrolled in graduate school this past September with the idea that they would at least be able to finish the semester.

Nonetheless, according to educators who have tried to obtain such postponements for graduate students ordered to report for induction, General Hershey has not used his postponement power on behalf of graduate students called up in the early part of this academic year.

On 24 October, however, General Hershey issued an advisory memorandum to the state Selective Service directors saying that consideration should be given to the postponement of induction of graduate students until the end of the school term. This memorandum is not binding on state directors, but it does represent Hershey's first formal advice to the state directors that consideration be given such postponement.

Postponement

According to Mrs. Vetter, graduate students who receive induction notices and wish to finish the current term should write immediately to the state Selective Service director for the state in which they are registered, giving the date of the end of their school term and requesting postponement of induction until that time. The student should send a carbon copy of his request to his local board. If his request is denied by his state director, he can write immediately to General Lewis B. Hershey, National Director of the Selective Service System, 1724 F Street NW, Washington, D.C., requesting postponement. Such requests, however, will not necessarily assure postponement.

Some graduate students apparently still do not realize that there are no longer any 2-S deferments for graduate study, except in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, osteopathy, and optometry. The abolition of this deferment poses a threat to many universities, not only because it may deprive them of many graduate students, but also because it will reduce their supply of teaching assistants. General Hershey made it clear last spring that a graduate student who worked part-time as a teaching assistant should not be consid-