Memorandum regarding calling out the National Guard and recruiting same to war strength, May 23, 1917

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MEMORANDUM:

STATE OF MAINE
The Adjutant General's Office
Augusta, May 23, 1917

Subject: Calling out the National Guard and recruiting same to war strength.

The following letter from the Chief of the Militia Bureau is published for the information and guidance of all concerned:

1. The Secretary of War directs me to inform you that the National Guard not now in Federal service, and the enlisted men of the National Guard Reserve of the State of Maine will be drafted into Federal service by the President about July 25, 1917. After being held at company rendezvous for approximately two weeks, these organizations, together with those now in Federal service (except the Coast Artillery) will be sent under orders from the War Department to concentration camps in the southeastern Department. Simultaneously with this draft, that portion of the Maine Guard now in Federal service will be drafted under the provisions of Section 111, the National Defense Act, approved June 3, 1916.

2. All National Guard Coast Artillery organizations, both in and out of the Federal service, will be drafted into the Federal service about July 15, 1917, and those not now in Federal service after being held at company rendezvous approximately two weeks will be sent under orders from the War Department to appropriate stations.

3. The Secretary of War further directs that all organizations of the National Guard, both in and out of Federal service, be immediately recruited to maximum strength, as shown in Tables of Organization, United States Army, 1917. For those organizations not now in Federal service, this recruiting will be effected under orders of the Adjutant General. For those organizations now in Federal service, the recruiting to maximum strength will be under the direction of the Department Commanders, to whom appropriate instructions to do this locally are being sent by the War Department; recruits thus secured, as well as those for organizations not now in Federal service, will be held at their local armories until the organizations to which they belong are sent to concentration camp.
4. The necessary arms, equipment and clothing for maximum strength over and above what is now in possession of the State is not available at present. Those on hand in the State will be utilized, but no further requisitions for these articles will be submitted until notice is given that supplies are available for issue. The Department hopes to have such supplies about August 10th.

5. After enrollment and pending the movement of these troops into concentration camps, the typhoid prophylaxis and vaccination against smallpox will be completed for all officers and enlisted men. In the meantime such training as the facilities of the State afford will be vigorously employed to train the newly enrolled men, as well as those already enlisted but not yet called out.

GEORGE McL. PRESSON

The Adjutant General.