

WAR DEPARTMENT
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND SPECIAL TRAINING
SECTION OF TRAINING AND INSTRUCTION BRANCH
WAR PLANS DIVISION, GENERAL STAFF
SECOND FLOOR, MILLS BUILDING

December 2, 1918.

From: Committee on Education and Special Training.
To: Commanding Officers, Students' Army Training Corps.
Subject: Observance of Day of Demobilization.

1. You will publish the accompanying order and read it to your command at the last formation prior to the discharge of the bulk of your men.

Committee on Education and Special Training.

R. E. Rees,
Brigadier General, U. S. A.,
General Staff Corps,
Chairman.

WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington, D. C.
December 2, 1918.

GENERAL ORDERS OF THE DAY

1. The Students' Army Training Corps was inaugurated at over five hundred and fifty American universities, colleges, professional and technical schools on October 1, 1918. By direction of the Secretary of War on November 23, 1918, all units of the Students' Army Training Corps will be demobilized between December 1 and December 21, 1918.

2. The Committee on Education and Special Training of the War Department desires to express to the officers and men of the Students' Army Training Corps its recognition of the fidelity with which they have discharged their duties under the difficult conditions which have so generally obtained the past three months. In spite of the serious effects of the influenza epidemic, and the many new adjustments incident to the working out of a new plan, the Students' Army Training Corps has already served a useful purpose in supplying officer material, and had reached a point of development at which its success as a military project was assured. Created to meet purely military needs, and involving the temporary subordination to these needs of the normal collegiate activities, its further continuance is now no longer necessary. Both the men and the educational agencies which have been utilized must now be restored to their normal status and devoted freely to the peaceful development of the national life.

3. This war has been won by the united efforts of all the friends of mankind and of civilization. Comparatively few have had the good fortune to meet the enemy face to face, but the credit for the victory belongs to all who have served loyally. You were called upon to remain temporarily at your studies, because the Army needed a reserve of trained leaders. You have been eager to play a more direct and exciting part in the war. Nevertheless, you have done the work required of you, which is the full duty of a soldier. You can now take back with you to your homes an honorable record of service. You have earned the gratitude of your country, and you may now devote to the upbuilding of your country and to the restoration of civilization the same soldierly allegiance and trained intelligence which fitted you for service in time of war.

R. I. Rees,
Brigadier General U. S. A.
General Staff Corps,
Chairman, Committee on E. & S. T.