

THE ALERT

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Millburn Defense Council

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IMPORTANT NEWS FOR CIVILIAN DEFENSE VOLUNTEERS

MEMORANDUM #46

Under his Emergency war powers, President Roosevelt has allocated the sum of \$5,000,000 from his Emergency Fund to the Federal Security Agency for the protection of civilians who are injured or otherwise affected by enemy action. In October, the President amended his original allocation of funds in order to make available a portion of such funds for the financial needs of any civil defense volunteers who might be injured or killed while in performance of their official duties.

Two forms of protection are afforded; first, civilian war assistance, which is administered by the Department of Institutions and Agencies in New Jersey, through the County Welfare Boards, is available to meet medical expenses, hospital expenses, and necessary assistance to families of volunteers in the protective services of local Defense Council who are injured or killed while on official duty.

Second, a monthly benefits program, which is administered by the Bureau of Old Age and Survivors Insurance of the Social Security Board through its local offices. The details of the benefits or indemnity plan have not been fully worked out at this writing, but the general nature of the program has been outlined and it is indicated that a monthly allotment somewhat similar to that which would have been effective had the injured or killed volunteer been covered by Old Age and Survivors Insurance plan through his regular employment. We shall be able to give you fuller details on this program in a short time.

The Civilian War Assistance program, however, is actually in effect and certain members of the staffs of air raid wardens, auxiliary firemen, auxiliary policemen, etc., who have been injured in line of duty during blackouts or other official practice activity, are now receiving aid on a monthly basis through their County Welfare Boards. Civilian War Assistance is a temporary emergency program to take care of needs resulting from any accident, and is to be administered on a "morale maintenance basis" rather than a strict relief basis. It will be necessary for the Welfare Boards, however, to determine any resources available to an individual family and to take these into consideration in making any grants of funds on behalf of the Federal Government.

Substantial grants of funds can and will be made in accordance with the needs as found by the County Welfare Boards. For example, we have one case of an injured auxiliary policeman who is receiving funds from this account to the extent of \$150 a month and his entire hospital and medical service bill amounting to more than \$2,000 is to be paid.

It should be specifically noted, however that if the person causing the accident is legally liable and able to pay, funds derived from such source will be counted upon as a part of the cost of assistance and care insofar as such funds may later be used to reimburse the Federal Government.

In order to make certain that any members of the local Defense Council's protective services may be eligible for compensation through these programs, care should be exercised to see that all volunteers are officially enrolled and sworn in before they assume their duties and a permanent roster should be maintained by local Defense Council in up-to-date condition so that the Chairman of the Defense Council can certify as to whether the person injured was an officially enrolled volunteer and was actually engaged in official duty at the time the accident took place.

In order to secure immediate benefits it is necessary for the local defense council chairman to notify the area office of the State Director of Civilian Defense when an accident takes place, and to file an official Referral Form in triplicate to the area office. Forms are available at the above office.

Immediate referral of the injured member and his family will be made by the State Director of Civilian Defense to the Department of Institutions and Agencies and through that agency to the County Welfare Board, and we are assured that prompt action will follow.

John C. Hazen, Deputy Director

As you can see from the above only those who are properly enrolled are eligible for these benefits. Unless you have completed your training, signed a registration card and been sworn in the Government is not responsible and any injuries incurred in the performance of your duties will be your own hard luck.

THE DIMOUT - You've all probably heard of the dimout - or have you? A copy of the dimout regulations, including a clarification, has been given to all air raid wardens along with copies of excerpts of the clarification for every householder to be distributed by the air raid wardens. This should have been done before the first of the year but a little stroll through the Township at night makes us wonder a bit. The Army is terribly serious about this dimout, witness the penalty for violations! Unless the dimout reduces the sky glow to a considerable extent we will have a complete blackout. You know how unpleasant that would be, so let's all get together and cooperate to make the dimout a success.

NEW HEAD OF MESSENGERS - Mr. Herbert Swanson, Millburn High School, is taking Mr. Barr's place as head of the messengers. Mr. Barr is now in the armed forces.

MESSENGERS - The problems in the messenger service are many and large. A goodly number of the older boys are going into the Service and there were none too many available to start with. Mr. Swanson is enlisting the services of all those who are of an age to serve as messengers.

A group of stretcher bearers is also being found for the disaster emergency units. When this group is complete they will have special training under Chief Hayes.

HOSE CART #1 - Here is an item of interest to all wardens. Mr. B. Gosling, Sector Warden of Zone I, Sector A and his wardens have constructed a Hose Cart to be used in fighting fires that might be caused by an Incendiary Bomb. No essential materials were used in the construction of the cart. The axle and wheels were turned out of wood. The body, hose reel and draw-bar were made from a large packing case. (The use of old lumber is not recommended.) For the chassis new lumber was used. The paint, and a few screws and bolts were all that was purchased. The men plan to build one of these carts for each street in their zone. They plan to have three houses in a row supply the equipment for the carts on a loan basis. Other hose, ladders, etc. will be spotted throughout the sector. Pictures of the Cart are on display in the Office of Civilian Defense.

FIRST AID SQUAD WITHIN WARDEN ORGANIZATION - Congratulations to Mr. W. M. Elliott of Sector B, Zone II. Mr. Elliott has trained and is supervising four first-aid units made up of Wardens in his Sector. There are units for daytime and two for nighttime. These units are equipped with first aid kits, stretchers, etc. at their own expense. The units are not only equipped for action but, more important, they have all completed the advanced first aid course and are having drills so they will be capable of handling any situation which might arise. This makes it unnecessary to call for a mobile unit in this section. Only a doctor and ambulance will be necessary.

ARM BAND ILLUMINATION - Warden Boegershausen of Zone I, Sector C has done a swell job of illuminating the Air Raid Wardens' armbands and helmets. For your information the illuminating is done as follows: Draw a circle around the ARW insignia with illuminating paint and then, still using illuminating paint, cover the three white stripes in the insignia itself and Lo and Behold your Wardens are visible in the blackest blackout!

ORCHIDS TO JOHN FORBES - Mr. John Forbes, Zone II, Sector E is to be congratulated on the complete information he has on all of the houses and their occupants in his patrol. Mr. Forbes not only includes the families but the names of family pets as well. Now Fido can snooze peacefully beside the cold radiator knowing that he will be cared for in case of an air raid.

GARDENS FOR VICTORY - The Government has stated that there will be a 50% shortage of canned foods the coming season. Our boys at the front and our allies need this amount and probably more. There is a serious farm labor shortage. It is the duty of every citizen on the home front to raise and conserve all food possible. The answer for those who have not the space is victory gardens. Plans are now completing to provide for at least 100 plowed, harrowed and limed gardens in two conveniently located plots. Also a short course of practical instruction by Mr. R. E. Harman, County Agricultural Agent, will be given for the benefit of prospective gardeners. These are in no sense to be relief or subsistence gardens and are available to any resident of Millburn.

This project has the unqualified support of the Township Committee, the Office of Civilian Defense, Civic Organizations, the Red Cross, the A. W. V. S., the Short Hills Garden Club and others. Further details may be obtained at Defense Headquarters, Mr. Victor Traub, Chairman, War Services Division or Mr. R. C. Craig, Town Hall, Millburn, New Jersey. There is no rationing of food you raise.

EXCERPTS AND CLARIFICATIONS FROM REGULATIONS
GOVERNING THE CONTROL OF ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING IN THE COASTAL DIMOUT
AREA WITHIN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

2. SOURCE OF LIGHT. For the purpose of these regulations, the term "Source of Light" is defined as follows: Any glass enclosed filament, gas mantle, fluorescent or neon tube, arc light, or other light generating element operating on an electrical circuit, by illuminating gas, open flame or otherwise, together with all enclosing transparent or translucent material.

4.b ESSENTIAL ILLUMINATION. Interior lighting of buildings used for residential or commercial purposes, or both, industrial establishments engaged in production of war materials (whether federally owned or operated or privately owned or operated) shall be shaded or otherwise controlled either at the source of light or at the openings of such buildings in such a manner that the source of light, as defined in paragraph 2 above, shall not be directly visible from any point outside of said buildings.

CLARIFICATION: If shades are fully drawn the source of light will be considered properly shaded.

In the matter of EXTERIOR HOUSEHOLD LIGHTS the source of light must be invisible at an angle less than 45 degrees below the horizontal. From the practical point of view this makes most lighting of this sort useless for area lighting. The only advantage in continuing the use of a light so shaded would be for the purpose of lighting a relatively small but hazardous spot. i.e., a stairway, slope or entrance-way.

6 a. NON-ESSENTIAL ILLUMINATION. In no case shall the lighting as measured on the open area exceed one foot candle at any point.

b. In no case shall the total wattage used exceed the following limits:

For incandescent bulbs-1/8 watt per square foot of lighted area.

For fluorescent tubes-1/16th watt per square foot of lighted area.

ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES. Any person who violates any regulation contained herein is subject to the penalties provided by Title 18, Section 97a, United States Code,* and to immediate exclusion from the Eastern Military Area. In addition, if two or more persons conspire to violate said Section 97a, United States Code, and one or more persons do any act to effect the object of such conspiracy, each of said parties will be subject to the penalties provided by Title 18 Section 88, United States Code. In the case of an alien enemy, such person will, in addition, be subject to immediate apprehension and internment.

(*Note: This section provides a penalty of a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or imprisonment for not more than one (1) year, or both, for each offense.)