

ITALY

Italian men are liable for military service for 12 months once they reach the age of 18. Reserve obligations can continue until the age of 45.

The right to conscientious objection has been legally recognised in Italy since 1972. Conscientious objector status and alternative service are available to conscripts who declare themselves opposed to the use of arms in all circumstances for fundamental reasons of conscience based on religious, philosophical or moral convictions. Those who possess an arms licence or who have been charged for abuse of carrying arms may not be recognised as COs.

Application for CO status must be made in writing to the authorities responsible for recruitment, stating reasons for the claim and requesting a transfer to either non-combatant military service or to civilian service. The evidence is forwarded to the Ministry of Defence which decides with the advice of a committee whether to recognise the claim. The committee is set up by ministerial decree and is composed of the a judge, a general or admiral nominated by the Ministry of Defence, a university professor nominated by the Ministry of Education, a magistrate and a psychologist, both nominated by the Council of Ministers. The Ministry of Defence has the power to nominate several committees.

The committee's decision is usually made on the basis of the written application, and the applicant does not normally have a personal hearing. An appeal on the decision of the Ministry of Defence is possible to the Regional Administrative Tribunal.

Application for CO status is usually made within 60 days of the call-up for service, or between December 31 of the preceding year and the call up to service if the service has been postponed. On receipt of the application the candidate is suspended from service until it has been examined. The Minister of Defence is expected to deliver his decision within six months of the submission of the application. In practice those applicants waiting for more than 26 months are exempted from military service.

Alternative service for a period of 20 months is available to all conscripts recognised as conscientious objectors. Various organisations, including local authorities, are responsible for the organisation of alternative service. Possibilities include work in civil defence, forestry, voluntary service in developing countries (here each application is judged on its merits), education work and work in social institutions. It is also possible to do non-combatant work within the army.

COs have the same rights and allowances as military conscripts. They are not able to hold public or private office, or to undertake professional activities while engaged in national service.

Unrecognised COs or those refusing all forms of service are liable for a prison sentence of between two and four years., but

in practice these sentences are reduced to up to one year's imprisonment. Persons developing conscientious objections after conscription may be charged with disobedience and sentenced to up to one year's imprisonment. Cases are heard in the Regional Military Court with the right to appeal to the Military Court of Appeal and finally to the Court of Cassation.

Between 1973 and September 1982 there were 22 306 applications for CO status of which 663 were refused (2,9 percent). Since then it is believed that the number of applications for CO status has averaged over 7 000 a year.

(Amnesty International, op cit, pp 12 to 14; Eide and Mubanga-Chipoya, op cit, annex 1, pp 17 to 32; Council of Europe, op cit, pp 46 to 49).

NETHERLANDS

Dutch men between the ages of 18 and 35 (28 in practice) are liable for military service. They may be called up to the reserve until the age of 45. Exemptions include principle breadwinners, "indispensable men", those with two or more brothers who have performed their military service and others with special situations or who have performed a special service. At present 120 000 men are liable for conscription but the army needs only 40 000 men, so a ballot system is being used. Military service is fourteen months.

Conscientious Objection has been recognised in Dutch law since 1920. CO status is granted to a persons who objects to military service on "serious conscientious objections". These objections are defined as "insurmountable conscientious objection to the personal performance of military service in connection with the use of violence in which a person may become involved as a consequence of his serving in the military forces of the Netherlands". Selective objection (for example, only to the use of nuclear weapons) is allowed.

After the conscript has been declared fit for military service application for CO status can be made in writing to the Minister of Defence, stating reasons for the claim. A report is then made and passed on to the Advisory Committee whose members are appointed by the Crown. The Minister of Defence decides after consultation with the Advisory Committee whether the reasons of the CO are recognised as serious objections within the meaning of the law. The applicant appears before one person of this Advisory Committee. He also has to appear before a psychologist. If his claim is not recognised at this stage, he has another hearing with three members of the Advisory Committee. The ministerial decision and the decision of the Committee, along with their reasons, are then communicated to the applicant.

An appeal against the decision of the Minister of Defence is possible within 30 days to the Crown. The grounds for appeal are not limited. There follows a public hearing the the Council of

State. The applicant is allowed legal counsel and witnesses to aid his defence. The decision is communicated in the form of a royal decree.

Alternative service for a period of 18 months is organised and administered by the Ministry for Social Affairs and Employment. COs are delegated to civilian service in organisations approved by the ministry. The CO is invited to an interview by an official of the ministry to discuss his placement in civilian service. The civilian service is performed with "institutions whose work is of general interest to the community" and which are approved by the ministry. The possibilities include work in social, cultural, health or welfare institutions, administrative posts, environmental protection, peace work or development service. Those who have already completed such a service on a voluntary basis may be considered as having performed their national service. It is not possible to do non-combatant service within the army. Groups wishing to employ a CO have to pay the government, which in turn pays the CO.

COs have the same rights and allowances as military conscripts (who have full civilian rights). It is possible for alternative service to be performed in separate periods. Provision is made for objecting before, during and after (reserve service) military service.

Conscripts who refuse all forms of national service can receive a prison sentence of up to two years, but in practice they receive sentences of up to one year.

In 1982 there were 2 936 applications for CO status of which eight were refused. Since then the number of those applying each year (including those on the reserve) has risen to about 4 000.

(Council of Europe, op cit, pp 54 to 57; Kiljunen and Vaaananen, op cit, p 37; Amnesty International, Annex 2, op cit, pp 5 to 18; Interviews by Alastair Teeling-Smith with Dutch Cos, West Germany, January and February 1989).

NORWAY

Norwegian men of the age of 18 are liable for 12 months conscription into the army or 15 months in the navy or airforce. Reserve obligations can continue until the age of 44.

The right to conscientiously object has been recognised in law since the beginning of the century. The reasons accepted for objection are "serious grounds of conviction". The courts have accepted religious, humanistic/ethical and political convictions, as long as these reasons have led to a pacifist view, although absolute pacifism is not demanded.

Application for CO status must be made in writing to the Ministry of Justice, but sent through the unit of the War Commissioner's Office. A statement from the district bailiff and supporting

statements from persons and organisations testifying to the pacifist behaviour of the applicant may accompany this application. It is passed from the military unit or War Commissioner's Office to the district Chief Police Officer, who, after interviewing the applicant, sends the documents to the Ministry of Justice, including its opinion of the merits of the case. The Ministry of Justice then decides for or against the application. If successful the conscript is informed by the War Commissioner's Office and is entered into the civil register. Application for CO status can be made at the earliest at the enrolment board stage and at anytime thereafter. On receipt of the application for CO status the conscript is automatically suspended from service until a decision has been taken.

If refused the applicant may appeal to the Lower Court, the Court of Appeal and the Supreme Court. The state will initiate the proceedings for an appeal if the conscript does not take up his military service within three weeks of a negative decision being communicated to him by the district Chief Police Officer. A case may be re-opened on the production of new facts.

Civilian service lasts for 16 months or a minimum of four months if the conscript has already performed some military service. Norwegian law states that it must be under a civilian administration and have no relation to military installations or undertakings. All aspects of civilian service are administered by the Ministry of Justice. Since 1984 it has started with a compulsory official school for Cos which lasts for 10 weeks. Subjects are social and humanitarian work and non-violent actions.

Possibilities for civilian work include civil defence, work in humanitarian and religious organisations, scientific work and work in health and social institutions, museums and research bodies. There is no unarmed service within the Norwegian army.

Cos have the same rights and allowances as military conscripts. The Office of Ombudsman for Conscripted Civilian Workers was instituted in 1956 to protect the rights of Cos and to officiate in matters concerning their welfare.

Conscripts who refuse all forms of service or whose application is turned down and who still refuse to perform military service are sentenced to three months' imprisonment. If they still refuse after having served their sentence they may be sentenced to a second three month sentence, after which they are effectively exempted from all future military service.

There is an average of about 3 000 applicants for CO status each year, of which over 90 percent are recognised before the appeal stage.

(Council of Europe, op cit, pp 58 to 61; Amnesty International, op cit, pp 14 to 15; Kiljunen and Vaananen, op cit, pp 218 to 226; Eide and Mubanga-Chipoya, Annex 1, op cit, p 30).

POLAND

Military service is compulsory for Polish men over the age of 18 for a period of 24 months. Women over the age of 18 may be called up to perform auxiliary services. Men may be called up for reserve obligations until the age of 50 and women until the age of 40. In practice most conscripts serve a total of three years. Priests, farm workers who cannot be replaced and mothers of families are exempt from conscription.

COs objecting to military service on moral or religious grounds are recognised in Polish law. Prior to June 1988 Polish law stated that "alternative conscript service can be available for people who cannot do military service for reasons independent of the military organis, provided they requested to do it, and were assigned by the military commander to it". But the law also stated that "during alternative service conscripts are subject to military instruction according to the programme determined by the Chief of Civil Defence of the country". Alternative service, was and still is, for the same duration as military service, that is, 24 months.

Prior to June 1988 alternative service conscripts were obliged to do a two month course in civil defence before being assigned to activities outside the military system. All conscripts, including alternative service conscripts, were obliged to swear a military oath. Those refusing all forms of service could be sentenced to between six months and five years imprisonment.

In January 1988 the Polish government announced that legislation would be introduced extending the option of alternative service to persons objecting to military service on the basis of "ideological convictions and attitudes". The new law would allow the courts to reconsider the cases of objectors who had been sentenced for refusing to serve.

The introduction of the new law last year led to the release of about 100 objectors who refused all forms of service, according to a Reuters report published in New Nation in October last year. One reason for the release of the objectors and the change in the law appears to have been pressure from human rights and peace groups such as Peace and Liberty. There are no known objectors in prison at the moment.

Conscripts are no longer compelled to swear the military oath. Moral, ethical and philosophical, as well as pacifist religious grounds for objection are now acceptable. Several objectors who have been active in peace groups have been recognised as COs.

Alternative service conscripts perform social services such as communal and environmental tasks. It is usually carried out in the rural or poorer areas, and is often far from the conscripts' homes. It also often involves manual work such as building canals. Other possibilities include work in hospitals, social and

public institutions, emergency work, conservation work and non-combatant duties within the army. The Ministry of Employment is responsible for the organisation of civilian service.

The period of alternative service is now three years. Those doing alternative service are subject to the same laws as military conscripts. They usually stay in hostels. Applicants for alternative service must apply to their local army officers.

The group Peace and Liberty is currently involved with establishing a union for alternative servers.

(Interviews with Polish peace and human rights group members conducted by Alastair Teeling-Smith, January and February 1989; New Nation October 27 1988; Amnesty International, op cit, pp 15 and 16; Kiljunen and Vaananen, op cit, p 37; Council of Europe, op cit, pp 61 and 62; Eide and Mubanga-Chipoya, annex 1, op cit, pp 20 to 24).

PORTUGAL

Military service is compulsory for Portuguese men aged 18 to 45. Those with special family circumstances are exempt from military service. The period of service is 12 to 15 months in the army and 18 to 20 months in the navy or air force.

The right to conscientious objection was recognised in the Portuguese - Constitution of 1976, but a law implementing alternative service was only passed March 22 1985. In the nine year intervening period two 1976 orders of the Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces applied. The first provides for a postponement of the call-up of COs until new provisions governing alternative service were put into force. The second allowed soldiers already called up to take advantage of the first order if they wish to become COs.

The 1985 law grants CO status to those objecting on moral, religious or philosophical grounds. An objector is given a 90 day period to establish grounds preventing him from performing his military obligations by means of a signed declaration by an administrative or religious authority or by two individual witnesses.

Alternative service, which lasts for 12 to 15 months, may be performed in the social, humanitarian, health, aid or environmental sectors. Non-combatant service within the military is also available.

The penalty for refusing to do alternative service is a prison sentence of up to two years imprisonment. Those who refuse could potentially also face a loss of civic rights and the right to hold public office.

According to the Council of Europe's Legal Affairs Committee between 1976 and 1983 there were about 20 000 COs. Since 1985 the figure has averaged about 4 000 a year.

(Amnesty International, op cit, annex 1, pp 3 to 18); Eide and Mubanga-Chipoya, op cit, annex 2, pp 12 to 29; Council of Europe, op cit, pp 64 to 65; Kiljunen and Vaananen, op cit, p 37).

SOUTH AFRICA

Military service is compulsory for all white South African males from the age of 16. There are no grounds for exemptions other than medical grounds. According to the provisions of the 1984 Defence Act, initial military service lasts a total of two years followed by 720 days of camps spread over a 12 year period. This may be done in the army, airforce, navy or, increasingly, the police. The conscript may express a preference but may not decide. After his camps are completed the conscript may be called up to the Active Citizen Force Reserve for five years (for 12 days a year) and then to the Controlled National Reserve until the age of 55. In addition, since 1982, some conscripts and older white men who have not previously been conscripted, have been called up into the "Dad's Army" commands as part of the army's Area Defence programme.

During 1984, following the promulgation of the South African Citizenship Amendment Act, thousands of immigrants aged between 15 1/2 and 25 automatically became South African citizens. All white men in this category then had to register for military service within 30 days. Those who rejected South citizenship had to apply to the Department of Home Affairs for temporary work and residence permits. By April 1985 over 600 people had refused South African citizenship to avoid military service and 30 people had been deported for refusing citizenship. In July 1985 about 1200 immigrants' sons were inducted into the SADF - the first group after the Act was passed.

In April 1989 Defence Minister Mangus Malan announced in parliament that conscripts would from then on be required to do a maximum of 10 months of camps in five two year cycles of up to 60 days each. While this has reduced the maximum period of camps by nearly 14 months, the real reduction has been less. According to the 1986 Defence White Paper conscripts served an average of 50, 7% of their total 720 day camp requirement - amounting to 362 days (only 62 days more than the current maximum). The 6 year period of imprisonment for conscientious objectors (see below) is not affected by this administrative reduction, meaning that the period of alternative service or imprisonment is now 2, 14 times that of the current maximum period of military service.

The extension of the call-up to all young white males in 1967 led to several thousand pacifist objectors, mainly members of the Jehovah's Witness Sect, being held in the military detention barracks, some for up to four years. In 1972 the government made certain concessions to Jehovah's Witnesses. Their sentence for refusing to serve was 15 months, but was no longer repeatable. In practice they would spend a year in military detention barracks, where they wore blue overalls, were segregated from other prisoners and excused from military drill.

Outside of the Jehovah's Witness sect the first public expression of resistance to military service came in 1974 at the South African Council of Churches Conference at Hammanskraal where a resolution was passed calling on its member churches "to challenge all their members to consider... whether Christ's call to take up the cross and follow him in identifying with the oppressed does not, in our situation, involve becoming conscientious objectors."

Soon after the Defence Act was amended to include Section 121 (c) which made it an offence punishable by a fine of R6 000 or six years imprisonment to encourage or assist any person to refuse or fail to render military service.

Between 1978 and 1983 at least 13 conscripts refused to render military service on political or politically-related grounds. They received sentences of up to two years imprisonment or in military detention barracks.

In 1983 the Defence Act was amended introducing the concept of religious alternative service into South African law. The Act established the possibility of objectors performing community service in government departments (usually under the Department of Manpower). This option, however, has been limited to objectors who could satisfy a Board for Religious Objectors that they would not serve "in any armed force" because of their religious convictions. In other words it excluded all those who were not in the Board's definition "bona fide religious pacifists". The amendment increased the term of imprisonment for objectors (and of alternative service for recognised alternative servers) to one-and-a-half times the length of their remaining service or 18 months imprisonment, whichever is the longer. The courts have held that this period is mandatory and therefore there is no discretion in sentencing. This means the objectors who have completed no military service face 6 years in jail. An objector with, for example, only one outstanding 30 day camp, would face 18 months in jail. Two objectors, David Bruce, 26, and Charles Bester, 19, are currently serving 6 year sentences. Saul Batyofin, 30, who had already completed 3 years of military service, is serving a 18 month sentence for refusing to do a 30 day camp. While Dr Guan Toms, 37, has served half of a 21 month sentence for refusing to do a camp, and is now on bail, pending an appeal relating to the rest of his sentence. The 6 year total period of imprisonment is not affected by the reduction of military service to a total of 2 years and 10 months.

The Board for Religious Objectors came into being in August 1984. In its first two years there were 1059 applications of which 123 were withdrawn and 16 refused. Altogether 70 percent of those accepted were granted the option of non-military community service, with the rest being given non-combatant status in the SADF (also only available to "bona fide" religious pacifists but for the same length of time as ordinary military service). Applications, supported by affidavits from religious ministers, are made to the Board which may require the conscript to give oral evidence.

Most of those refusing to do military service are never charged with this offence in South Africa. Some are charged with the lesser offence of failing to report. Since 1985 at least six public political objectors have been charged with failing to report and have received suspended prison sentences and/or fines of up to R600. In 1985 the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, announced in parliament that 7589 conscripts failed to report for initial military service in January of that year. He later explained that the majority of these were students who were later deferred. According to statistics provided by the SADF in court cases of those failing to report for military service an average of over 15% of conscripts fail to report for their camps. Since 1985 the SADF has refused to release the figures of those failing to report for military service.

Over the past four years there have been several public, collective stands taken by conscientious objectors in South Africa. In 1985 a group of about 100 potential "Dad's Army" recruits in Cape Town publicly refused to register with the SADF and a similar stand was taken in Grahamstown. In July 1987 a group of 23 Cape Town and Stellenbosch objectors refused to serve and in July 1988 143 objectors from Cape Town, Stellenbosch, Durban, Pietermaritzburg, Grahamstown, Johannesburg and Pretoria announced their refusal to serve. In September 1989 771 objectors from 11 centres around the country announced their refusal to serve and launched a Register of Conscientious Objectors, which, they say, now includes the names of over 900 conscripts. Earlier this month about 350 conscripts and supporters marched to the Cape Town Castle to hand the register to the SADF. In April 1989 about 900 mothers of conscripts publicly made a call for alternative service.

There are several groups in South Africa providing support for objectors. The Conscientious Objectors Support Group was formed 10 years ago, and together with the Conscription Advice Service now has branches in 8 centres in South Africa. The End Conscription Campaign was launched in October 1983 and was declared a restricted organisation in terms of the Emergency regulations in August 1988. In the first year of the State of Emergency 75 ECC members were detained under the Emergency Regulations and 25 were served with individual restriction orders, while security police raided over 90 ECC homes. At the time of its restriction ECC claimed to have 13 branches and 1000 active members. The Catholic, Anglican and Methodist churches all have committees dealing with this question, while on certain university campuses conscription-oriented groups exist. Outside the country the Committee on South African War Resistance provides support for exiled objectors, and has branches in five countries. The issue has also been taken up by the Democratic Party which has called for the rapid phasing out of the system of conscription and its replacement with a professional and volunteer army. It has also called for the extension of the current system of alternative service to non-religious objectors.

In addition to Section 121(c) of the Defence Act the Emergency Regulations make it an offence punishable by up to 5 years imprisonment and/or a fine of R10 000 to call for an end to military conscription.

(Amnesty International, op cit, pp 5-18; Eide and Mubanga-Chipoya, op cit, annex 2, pp 13-30; Cawthra, Gavin, Brutal Force, International Defence and Aid Fund for Southern Africa, London, May 1986, pp 63-77; 1984 and 1986 Defence White Papers; Nakan, "Marching to a different beat : a history of the End Conscription Campaign", in Coch, J and L Nakan, War and Society - The Militarisation of South Africa, David Philip, Cape Town, 1989, pp 308-323; H Winkler and L Nakan, "Waging Peace : Church resistance to militarisation", in Coch, J and L Nakan, op cit, pp 324-337; Weekly Mail 27.4.87; Cape Times 13.3.85; Citizen 4.9.85; Weekly Mail 28.4.89; Star 22.9.89; Weekly Mail 6.10.89; Human Awareness Programme, Militarisation Dossier, Johannesburg 1987; Paratus, September 1984)

SPAIN

Spanish men are liable for 12 months of compulsory military service from the age of 18, with reserve obligations continuing until the age of 34. Priests, members of religious sects and those with special family circumstances are exempt from conscription.

Conscientious objection is recognised in law in Spain. CO status may be granted to conscripts requesting exemption from military service on religious, ethical, moral, humanitarian or philosophical grounds or others of a similar nature. The law provides for alternative service outside of the military system, which may last between 18 and 24 months.

Application for CO status is made in writing to the National Council on Conscientious Objection. This must be made before military service because application for CO status during military service is not possible. If the application is presented two months before the incorporation into active service at the latest, the conscript is suspended from service until a decision has been taken on his application. The application must state the reasons for the objection.

Once the claim has been received it is investigated by the National Council which consists of a judge from a higher court, nominees from the Ministries of Justice, Defence and the Presidency, and one conscientious objector who has completed his alternative service. The Council may test the conscientious beliefs of applicants to determine whether there is any inconsistency, but may not make any judgments as to the validity of the beliefs. The Council decides in majority.

An appeal against the decision of the National Council is possible, and a final appeal to the Constitutional Court is sometimes possible.

The Presidential Ministry is responsible for the administration and supervision of alternative service and the placement of COs. Possibilities for civilian service include work for the public in civil defence, environmental protection, rural improvements, social and health services and jobs and services considered to be in the public interest by the Council of Ministers.

Until the beginning of last year most alternative service was performed in state institutions. Work in non-governmental organisations was only possible after approval by the Presidential Ministry. Since January 21 1988 objectors have spent the major part of their alternative service performing work in the public interest, which is run by the public administration and non-profit private organisations. The new law also provides for a period of basic training for all COs, which includes training in civil defence and protection.

Under the new law COs remain liable for call up on the reserve until the age of 34 for up to 30 days a year in the event of "great risk to the country, catastrophes and public disasters".

Failure to report for alternative service and desertion from alternative service are offences punishable by prison sentences of between two years and four years and two months. Refusal to perform alternative service is punishable by a prison sentence of between six months and six years. In practice, according to Amnesty International reports on cases of Spanish objectors, sentences are generally less than 18 months.

According to figures released by the Spanish government between 1985 and 1987 a total of 24 000 applications for CO status were received, of which about 150 were rejected.

(Amnesty International, op cit, pp 18 and 19; Insumision, October 1988, Movimiento de Objecion de Conciencia; Council of Europe, op cit, pp 67 to 70; Eide and Mubanga-Chipoya, Annex 1, op cit, pp 7 to 30; Kiljunen and Vaananen, op cit, p 30).

SWEDEN

Military service is compulsory for Swedish men from the age of 18, with reserve obligations continuing until the age 47. The period of military service is seven and a half months to fifteen months in duration. Jehovahs Witnesses are exempt from conscription.

The right to conscientiously object has been recognised in law since 1920. The latest law on the issue is the 1978 Law on Weapon-Free Service which states that an applicants' attitude to the use of weapons in every possible situation need not be taken into account; only his attitude towards the premeditated use of weapons need be considered. An applicant who could not exclude the possibility that in an emergency situation he would use weapons to defend himself or others should not be refused CO status. However, the law states that the conviction of the applicant must be clearly related to a strong respect for the inviolability of individual human life. The right to conscientiously object is available both before and during military service.

Application must be made in writing to the Alternative Service Commission. The applicant is then called before an investigator chosen by the Alternative Service Commission who examines the claim and writes a report with a proposal to the Alternative Service Commission. The Commission on Alternative Service receives the report and reaches a decision on the case. An applicant may be obliged to appear before the commission. He has the right to restate his case to the commission regardless of the investigator's report.

A conscript can apply for CO status before or during military service. Service is postponed until a decision is made on the application. The procedure for obtaining CO status can take between six and ten months.

Civilian service lasts for between 12 and 15 months. There are 345 days basic civilian service plus another 75 days which may be served some years after basic service, one month at a time.

The Department for Weapon-free Education is responsible for finding suitable employment for recognised COs and for their training. The wishes of the CO will be given consideration by the Department. A CO can appeal to the Military Service Commission against the decision of the department, but this decision is final. This department is also responsible for the supervision of this work.

Possibilities for civilian service work include civil service, state railways, waterworks, telecommunications, health and hospital work, farming, fire and rescue services at airports, social work with state or local authorities and non-governmental organisations, environmental work with state authorities and service with developing countries. Non-combatant service within the army does not exist. COs have the same rights and allowances as military conscripts.

If the application is refused an appeal may be lodged with the Ministry of Defence. If the appeal is denied and the applicant persists in refusing service, he may be prosecuted for disobeying a military order, in which case he is tried before a civilian court and may be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of up to one year or a fine. Those conscripts called up who refuse all forms of service are, in practice, usually fined for a first offence and sentenced to four months imprisonment for a second offence. This sentence is served in an open prison and the conscript may be released after three months. According to both Amnesty International and the Council of Europe Legal Affairs Committee objectors are not recalled for service after two offences.

Since the mid-seventies the total number of conscripts has declined while the number of Cos has increased. In 1975, for example, there was a total of 3 172 objectors (969 of them refusing all forms of service) out of 63 528 conscripts. By 1981 the total number of objectors had risen to 5 648 (1 510 refusing all forms of service) out of 57 579 conscripts. About 15 percent of all applicants are refused CO status before the appeal stage.

(Eide and Mubanga-Chipoya, Annex 1, op cit, pp 25 to 34; Amnesty International, op cit, pp 19 and 20; Council of Europe, op cit, pp 71 to 73; Kiljunen and Vaananen, op cit, p 37).

SWITZERLAND

Military service is compulsory for all Swiss males from the age of 20 until the age of 50. Basic training is four months, after which conscripts must attend eight training courses of 20 days each before the age of 32, three courses of 13 days each before the age of 42 and up to 13 days until the age of 50. Altogether military service lasts 11 months on average. Members of the Swiss Federal Council, chaplains, prison officers and essential hospital staff are exempt from military service.

Although there is no official recognition of the refusal to perform military service, certain grounds may be taken into account by the courts, which may diminish prison sentences. These include religious, ethical and humanitarian grounds.

There is also limited access to unarmed military service in Switzerland for those "whom the use of a weapon would thrust into a severe conflict of conscience because of their religious or ethical convictions". These conscripts may be freed from the

obligation of carrying a weapon. Unarmed military service, which is the same length as armed military service, is usually performed in the medical corps or the aerial protections corps.

A conscript who intends to refuse military service should on receipt on his call-up papers write a letter to the army explaining the reasons for his refusal. He will later be summoned to Military Justice where a file on him is prepared. This is followed by a trial where the judge cross-examines the conscript. Witnesses may be called and the trial is held before a judge, two officers and two lower ranking soldiers. The conscript may defend himself, call a lawyer or make use of an army lawyer. An appeal is possible to another Military Justice tribunal, and a final appeal may be made to the Federal Council. A conscript may have to wait six to 12 months after receiving his call-up papers before his appearance at the military tribunal.

Since January 1986 the individual cantons have had the power to commute sentences of up to six months imprisonment to sentences of "semi-detention". In such a situation the conscript works in his own or an approved job outside the place of detention during the day. According to Amnesty International an increasing number of sentences are being served in this way. Sentences for convicted conscientious objectors are usually for a period of less than six months, and they are held at night at special institutions where no common criminals are held. Some objectors are allowed to work in medical or social services, and others are even allowed to continue their normal professions during the day, while spending free time in a remand home.

According to Amnesty International at the beginning of last year parliament was considering a draft bill modifying the Military Penal Code and the Federal Law on Military Organisation. Under its provisions conscripts recognised as having objections based on religious or ethical grounds would receive a sentence of a period of compulsory work of less than two years. This would not be entered on their criminal records.

The total number of COs and non-combatants has increased rapidly since the mid-seventies. In 1977 there were 345 COs who appeared before a tribunal of whom 138 were recognised as having a deep conflict of conscience. By 1983 this had risen to 745 with 228 recognised as having a deep conflict of conscience. The number of applications for unarmed service increased from 701 (191 accepted) in 1979 to 898 (287 accepted) in 1982.

Although in theory convicted COs may be called up again on completing their sentences, in practice first offenders are dismissed from the army by the military judge and are therefore freed from further obligations.

(Amnesty International, op cit, pp 20 to 22; Council of Europe, op cit, pp 74 to 77; Dorothea Woods, Switzerland: Proposed Changes in the Situation of the Conscientious Objector, in Kiljunen and Vaananen, op cit, pp 227 to 233; Eide and Mubanga-

Chipoya, Annex 2, op cit, pp 25 to 34).

UNITED STATES

The statutory authority for the draft in the United States of America expired in June 1973, six months after the last draft call had been issued by the Selective Service System. This brought to an end a nearly continuous period of over 30 years of compulsory military service. The purpose of including the United States in this section is to look at the system of alternatives operating while conscription was in force.

Over the past 16 years the United States has sought to staff its military forces exclusively with volunteers. In the early eighties, however, registration for military conscription was re-introduced, and became the subject of significant resistance among American youth. According to US government and independent sources cited in one 1987 study, in the mid-eighties there were over six million violations of US draft-related laws, including large-scale non-registration, incomplete, late and invalid registration and the aiding and abetting of various forms of resistance to registration. By 1986 however only 18 young men had been charged with non-registration, all but one of them people who had been public about their refusal. Seven of those charged were given prison sentences. (Matt Meyer, "Legal and Economic Conscription", in Kiljunen and Vaananen, op cit, p232.). The registration system in the United States is no longer applied.

The current situation in the United States is that there is no conscription but the Military Selective Service Act, which provides for military conscription, is still part of US law. Because the draft is no longer applied alternative service is not currently applicable, although the Act contains sections relating to conscientious objection and alternative service. The period of alternative service prescribed in the act is 24 months, the same length as conscription in the Armed Forces. The grounds recognised for servicemen who wish to conscientiously object are "firm and sincere objection to participation in war in any form or the bearing of arms, by reason of religious training and belief". In 1967 the requirement of a belief in a "Supreme Being" was removed.

Under the 1967 Military Selective Service Act all males had to register at 18 years of age. A local "draft board" was given the duty of classifying the registrant. A registrant could claim conscientious objector or non-combatant status when he registered or at any subsequent time. A special form was completed and returned to the local draft board, which then classified the registrant. If the request was denied the individual could request a personal appearance before the local board within 30 days of his notice of refusal. The registrant was not allowed to be represented by a lawyer. If again refused he could appeal to the State Appeal Board by requesting an appeal within 30 days of notice of his second refusal. This second appeal did not involve

a personal appearance. If there was any dissent within the State Appeal Board he was permitted to appeal further to a three person civilian National Selective Service Appeal Board. There was no appeal after this and he would be charged with refusing to serve in a civilian court, which had its own appeal process. The civilian court had the right to decide whether the local board had correctly refused his application.

The penalty for a conscript convicted for refusal to serve was a fine of up to \$10 000 and/or a sentence of up to five years imprisonment. The judge had full discretion with regard to sentencing. Legally a conscript could be called up again after this, although this seldom occurred in practice.

Those recognised as non-combatants served in the Army Medical Services. Those assigned to civilian work could be employed by the US government or State governments or by non-profit organisations involved with health, welfare, educational, scientific or related activities. Prospective employers would apply to the State Office of Selective Service in the state where the work would be carried out. If permission was granted COs could be used in work outside the United States.

By the end of 1967 it was estimated that between 10 000 and 25 000 Americans had left the United States or Canada, because of the draft and that thousands of others had left for other countries. By this time 3 000 resisters had burnt their draft cards or returned them to their Boards. By early 1968 the Central Committee for Conscientious Objectors, a private organisation, was handling 800 cases of conscientious objectors seeking advice each month. By mid-1968 independent surveys indicated that the majority of Americans were opposed to the war in Vietnam. Partly as a result of this growing opposition, which was linked to US war casualties (by the end of the war 55 000 Americans had lost their lives in Vietnam), the US began to disengage from Vietnam and conscription was ended in December 1972. Since then the United States has relied purely on volunteers to man its 2,2-million-strong armed forces.

(Bruce Bliven, *Volunteers One and All*, Readers Digest Press, New York, 1976; *America's Volunteers, A Report on the All-Volunteer Armed*

Forces, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defence, Washington DC, December 31 1978; Matt Meyer, "Legal and Economic Conscription" in Kiljunen and Vaananen, op cit. pp 230 to 234; Prasad and Smythe, op cit, pp 139 to 149; Eide and Mubanga-Chipoya, Annex 2, op cit, pp 9 to 30).

URUGUAY

Compulsory military service exists for Uruguayan male citizens from the age of 18 until the age of 30. Those who are not part of the permanent army serve in the active reserve or auxiliary forces. Those called up to the active reserve complete up to two months basic training, after which they are only obliged to take part in annual manoeuvres. The total period of

service is usually less than one year. Those called up to the auxiliary forces take part in training only under exceptional circumstances.

Menonites and those with children under their care are exempted, and only a small proportion of those liable are in fact called up. Exemptions are reported to be widespread and the law is not strictly applied.

Conscientious objector status is recognised by law, but there is no provision for COs to do alternative service outside of the military. According to the Uruguayan government the CO is permitted to perform non-combatant service within the army. The period of unarmed service is the same as that of military service.

According to the Compulsory Military Service Law recognition is given to "objections based on philosophic convictions of citizens whose conscience forbids them the use of arms". Application is made to army or navy recruitment centres in this regard. Objectors to all forms of military service or those whose grounds for non-combatant service is not recognised and who continue to refuse to bear arms, may be imprisoned or fined.

(Prasad and Smythe, op cit, pp 149 to 150; Eide and Mubanga-Chipoya, Annex 1, op cit, p 22, Annex 2, p6).

USSR

Soviet men are liable for military service from the age of 18 until the age of 27. Women may also be called up from a military register. If, at the age of 27, a conscript still has the right of deferment of his military service, he is freed from his peacetime military service obligations. Normally students are obliged to do their military training in establishments of higher education while those doing part-time studies will take military education at special centres. Military service. The length of service ranges from one to three years, depending on the branch of the armed forces. It is normally two years. A conscript can be called up for the reserve until the age of 40.

Those with special family circumstances and those offered volunteer work in terms of the unofficial alternative service programme are exempt from military service.

There is no provision in Soviet law for the recognition of conscientious objection, although it was recognised by special decree in 1919. There is also no legal provision for non-military alternative service. However, in practice, religious objectors such as Baptists, Pentecostals and Seventh Day Adventists and others who express their willingness to perform unarmed service are allowed to do so.

According to Amnesty International people from these religious faiths are permitted to perform unarmed service, in uniform, in

construction battalions. According to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights and the Parliament of Europe Legal Affairs Committee some objectors are also offered various forms of volunteer work outside of the military which exempts them from military service.

Those who refuse all forms of military service or whose grounds for non-combatant service are not accepted may be charged with evasion of call up and may be sentenced to between one and three years imprisonment, and those who mobilise others not to serve may be sentenced to between three and five years imprisonment. They may be called up again until the age of 27.

The issues of conscription and objection have come to the fore in the current Soviet elections, according to press reports. For example, in his campaign for the Supreme Soviet Dr Andrei Sakharov has argued that military conscription should be ended in favour of an all-volunteer professional army (Guardian, January 29, 1989).

(Eide and Mubanga-Chipoya, Annex 1, op cit, pp 9 to 34; Council of Europe, op cit, pp 81 and 82; Amnesty International, op cit, pp 22 to 23; Kiljunen and Vaananen, op cit, p37; The Guardian, January 29, 1989).

COUNTRY	PERIOD OF MIL. SERVICE	WHO IS LIABLE	CO RECOGNISED	ALT SERV WITHIN MILITARY	ALT SERV OUTSIDE MILITARY	ALT SERV WITHIN N.G.O.s	LENGTH OF ALT SERVICE?	CATEGORIES OF OBJECTOR RECOGNISED	PENALTY FOR REFUSAL	AVERAGE NO. OF OBJECTORS PER YEAR	EXEMPTIONS FROM MILITARY SERVICE
Angola	3 years	Men 18 - 30 (30 - 50 on reserve); women with certain qualifications	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	1 - 2 years imprisonment	not known	
Afghanistan	not known	men on tribal basis	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	may face imprisonment - no statutory provision	n/k	
Albania	24 - 36 months	men over 18	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	up to 5 years imprisonment	n/k	
Austria	8 months	men 18 - 35	yes	yes	yes	yes	8 months	religious, humanitarian, ideological and other sincere beliefs	1 year imprisonment	4 - 5000	
Argentina	6 months - 1 year	men over 18	ad hoc basis - draft bill	ad hoc	ad hoc	no	6 months - 1 year	none officially	up to 4 years imprisonment or fine	n/k	clergy, public servants, family grounds
Belgium	12 months	men 18 - 45	yes	yes	yes	yes	12 months - 24 months (depending on kind of of A.S)	"compelling conscientious grounds"	in practice up to 2 years imp (with 2nd year in semi-liberty)	2 - 3000	
Benin	18 months	men	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	possible prison sentence	n/k	
Bolivia	3 months - 2 years (by ballot)	men 19 - 50	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/k		Menonites
Brazil	2 years	men 19 - 45	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	4 months - 1 year's imprisonment	n/k	clergy
Bulgaria	2 years - 3 years (depending on branch of armed forces)	men 18 - 40	ad hoc basis	yes	yes - ad hoc	yes (3 years on mines)	3 years	ad hoc - discretionary	up to 3 years - can recur	n/k	
Cape Verde	2 years	men & women	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Chile	up to 2 years	men 19 - 40	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	fine or 61 to 540 days impr.	n/k	
China	3 years army 4 years navy 5 years air f.	men over 18 on ballot basis	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	imprisonment no known cases	n/k	
Colombia	18 months	men 18 - 50	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	fine or impr.	n/k	
Cuba	3 years	men over 16	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	fine or imprisonment - 6m - 3years	n/k	
Cyprus	26 months	men 18 - 50	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	fine or 2 y imprisonment	n/k	priests, Armenians, Greek Orthodox, Menonites, Catholics, policemen
Czechoslovakia	24 - 27 months	men 18 - 50	limited	yes	yes ad hoc	no	3 y railways 5 y mines	religious on ad hoc basis	22 months (only 1 recent sentence)	n/k	
Denmark	9 - 12 months	men 18 - 50 - ballot basis	yes	yes	yes	yes	11 months	religious, ethical philosophical	9 months imp (but may be released after 4½ for good conduct)	1000	
Ecuador	1 year	men over 20	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	law provides for loss of civilian rights	n/k	family grounds, married men, those found to be morally unfit
Egypt	18 months - 2 years	men	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	fine or impr.	n/k	Jews
El Salvador	1 year	all people 18 - 30	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	imprisonment - no known cases	n/k	clergy, students, public officials, presidential employees
Equatorial Guinea	n/k	men	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Ethiopia	30 months	men 18 - 50	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Finland	11 months	men over 20	yes	yes	yes	yes	16 months	religious & ethical	9 - 12 m imp.	1100 - 1300	Jehova's Witnesses

COUNTRY	PERIOD OF MIL. SERVICE	WHO IS LIABLE	CO RECOGNISED	ALT SERV WITHIN MILITARY	ALT SERV OUTSIDE MILITARY	ALT SERV WITHIN N.G.Os	LENGTH OF ALT SERVICE	CATEGORIES OF OBJECTION OR RECOGNISED	PENALTY FOR REFUSAL	AVERAGE NO. OF OBJECTORS PER YEAR	EXEMPTIONS FROM MILITARY SERVICE
France	12 months	men 18 - 35	yes	yes	yes	yes	up to 24 months (1 year in practice)	"for reasons of conscience" - religious or philosophical	up to 2 years imprisonment	1500 - 1800	special family circumstances
Gabon	n/k	men	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Federal Republic of Germany	18 months	men 18 - 28	yes	yes	yes	yes	24 months	religious, ethical, philosophical	up to 5 years imp. (2 years in practice)	70000	priests, West Berlin residents, special family circumstances
German Democratic Republic	18 months plus reserve duty	men - 18 - 26 plus reserve	limited	yes	no	no	18 months	"grounds of conscience" - religious or ethical	up to 5 years imp - in practice 21 months max - seldom applied	2500	most theology students
Greece	total of 26 m (including reserve duty)	men 18 - 40	limited	yes	no	no	48 months	only religious	up to 4 years imp (2 1/2 years in practice)	June 87 - 380 imprisoned	special family circumstances
Guatemala	up to 2 years	men 18 - 50	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	can pay "special tax"
Guinea	n/k	students of both sexes	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Hungary	24 months	men over 18	yes	yes	yes	no	24 months	religious and ethical	2 - 3 years imprisonment	n/k	
Iran	24 months	men	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/k	n/k	
Iraq	24 months plus camps	men 18 - 25	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	n/k	n/k	
Israel	men 3 years women 2 years plus up to 30 days camps a year	men and women from age of 18	limited	limited	no	no	n/a	women on grounds of conscience, way of life, religion exempted; others on ad hoc basis	up to 1 years imprisonment		Israeli Arabs, Druze women, male religious scholars, Muslims, Christians, married women, pregnant women mothers, "special reasons"
Italy	1 year	men 18 - 45	yes	yes	yes	yes	20 months	philosophical conviction	2 - 4 years imp (in practice up to 1 year)	7000	
Jordan	2 years	men over 18	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Kampuchea	n/k	men	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Korea Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea	7 years in practice 30 - 48 months	men men 19 - 50	no	no	no	no	n/a n/a	n/a n/a	imprisonment 3 years impr.	n/k n/k	
Kuwait	n/k	men	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Laos	n/k	men 15 - 45	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Libya	3 years army 4 years airf.	men and women 18 - 35	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	1 year impr. & civil rights loss	n/k	
Madagascar	n/k	men	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	impr & loss of civil rights	n/k	
Mali	n/k	students of both sexes	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Mexico	1 year plus possible reserve duties	men over 18	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	loss of civil rights plus possible impr.	n/k	Menonites
Mongolia	n/k	men over 18	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Morocco	n/k	men over 18	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Mozambique	2 years	men 18 - 30	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	possible impr.	n/k	
Netherlands	14 months	men 18 - 35 ballot basis	yes	no	yes	yes	18 months	religious, ethical, philosophical	up to 2 years imp (in practice 1 year)	4000	indispensable men, principle breadwinners, those with 2 or more brothers who've served, those with "special situations", those who've performed "special service"
Nicaragua	2 years	men over 18	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	up to 4 years imprisonment	n/k	
Norway	1 year army 15 months navy and airforce	men 18 - 44	yes	yes	yes	yes	16 months	religious, ethical, philosophical	3 months impr. (can serve 2nd 3 months term)	3000	
Paraguay	1 year	men over 18	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	Menonites
Peru	2 years	men over 19	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Niger	n/k	men over 18	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	

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Poland	2 years plus up to 1 year camps	men 18 - 50 women 18 - 40 (potentially)	yes	yes	yes	no	3 years	religious, ethical, ideological	6 months - 5 years	n/k	priests, Menonites, mothers
Portugal	12 - 20 months	men 21 - 45	yes	no	yes	yes	12 - 15 months	religious, moral, philosophical	up to 2 years imp & loss of civil rights	4 000	family reasons, special circs
Rumania	30 months	men and women over 18	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	6 months - 5 years impr.	n/k	
San Marino	n/k	men 16 - 55	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Saudi Arabia	n/k	men	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Singapore	2 - 3 years	men over 18	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
South Africa	4 years (2 yrs nat. serv & 2 years camps) - (DE FACTO 4 yrs + 2 months)	white men 16 - 55	limited	limited	limited	no	up to 6 years	"bona fide religious pacifists"	up to 6 years imp (1/2 times remaining service & min of 18 months)	300 - 400	Residents of "independent homelands"
Somalia	18 months - 2 years	men 18 - 40 women 18 - 30	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	impr or forced conscription	n/k	
Spain	1 year	men 18 - 24	yes	no	yes	yes	18 months	religious, moral, philosophical, ethical, humanitarian	6 months - 6 years imp (in practice up to 18 months)	8 000 - 10 000	priests, special family circs, certain religious sects
Sweden	7 1/2 months - 15 months	men 18 - 47	yes	no	yes	yes	12 - 15 months	all conscientiously-related grounds	fine and/or up to 1 year imp (of which 4 months in prison)	6 000	Jehovah's Witnesses
Switzerland	11 months	men 20 - 50	limited	yes	no	no	up to 12 months	religious and ethical pacifists	up to 1 year imp (6 months "semi liberty" in practice)	1 000	Swiss Federal Council members, prison officers, essential hospital staff, chaplains
Syria	30 months	men over 18	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment		Jews
Taiwan	two years plus reserve serv.	men	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Thailand	2 years plus reserve service	men 18 - 30	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment or fine	n/k	
Tunisia	1 year plus reserve service	men over 20	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	imprisonment	n/k	
Turkey	18 months	men 20 - 41	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	one year imprisonment	n/k	
Uruguay	up to one year (usually less in practice)	men 18 - 30	limited	yes	on ad hoc basis	no	up to 1 year	grounds of conscience	fine or imprisonment	n/k	widespread exemptions - only small proportion called up - grounds include family circumstances, Menonites and others
USSR	1 - 3 years (depending on branch of armed forces)	men 18 - 27 (can be called up to reserve till 40)	limited	limited	no	no	1 - 3 years	religious	1 - 3 years imprisonment	n/k	family circumstances, voluntary work
Yemen - Arab Republic	3 years	men	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	fine or imprisonment	n/k	
Yemen - People's Rep.	up to 3 years	men	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	fine or imprisonment	n/k	
Yugoslavia	12 months	men over 18	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	fine or up to one year's imprisonment	n/k	
Vietnam	n/k	men and women	no	no	no	no	n/a	n/a	possible prison sentence	n/k	

DRAFT PROPOSALS ON ALTERNATIVE/CIVILIAN NATIONAL SERVICE.

This document has been compiled by the Alternative National Service (ANS) Forum. It is intended to stimulate debate about the administration of a system of Alternative/Civilian National Service.

At present the Defence Amendment Act allows for Community Service for religious pacifists to be performed in a government department for a period 1 1/2 times that of military service.

This has some obvious shortcomings and a growing number of people and organizations now believe that a more equitable and just system of alternative (community) service would be based on the following three principles.

- 1. Alternative National Service (ANS) should be available to all conscripts who in conscience cannot serve in the SADF;
- 2. It should be available in non-government and government institutions;
- 3. It should be available on equal terms to military service.

The document consists of two proposals:

1. Interim adjustments to the present system of religious objection and community service that can be made soon and without a change to the Defence Act.
2. A more ideal system that could be set up in South Africa should conscription remain.

Please note:

Our first demand is that the present system of military conscription be stopped, and that there be no conscription in a future democratic South Africa. These proposals must be seen in the light of this demand.

Proposal one: Adjustment to the present system of religious objection and community service.

This interim adjustment is proposed on the grounds that at this point in South African history the state is not willing or able to establish a whole new system for objectors. Furthermore, fundamental changes will need to go before parliament, and this could mean a delay of years - which would not help present conscripts.

1. The Board for Religious Objection.

- 1.1. The present structure and composition of the board should be maintained.
- 1.2. The present administrative system pertaining to application to the board, hearings, and acceptance should be maintained.
- 1.3. The definition of 'religion' will be broadened to mean 'world-view'.
- 1.4. The focus of objection will be: "refusal to serve in the SADF at this point in time" - and all questions pertaining to the universality of this objection are declared not valid.

The result of these steps (particularly 1.3. and 1.4.) is that objection is available to any conscript who in conscience cannot serve in the SADF.

2. Placement.

- 2.1. The Department of Manpower will continue to serve as the government department which oversees the placement and administration of those doing community service.
- 2.2. Any non-governmental body working for the 'public good' who would like to make use of objectors may chose to 'contract into' a scheme with the Department of Manpower. (The full details of this contract would need to be developed but it would proceed on the analogy of a 'subsidy' from the state to the body).
- 2.3. The present job-placement categories in government service will continue to be available.

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