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THE CHANGE FROM A MANDATORY TO A VOLUNTARY
RESERVE OFFICER'S TRAINING CORPS PROGRAM AT
KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

by 45

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A MASTER'S REPORT

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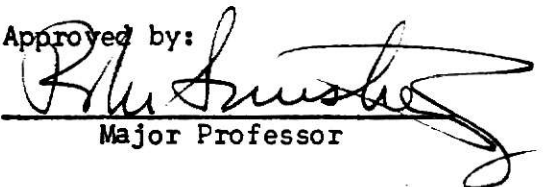
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PREFACE

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to the following people for their valuable assistance in granting me a personal interview. Without their assistance this paper could not have been completed. All of these people are associated with Kansas State University.

Mr. Max W. Milbourn
Special Assistant to the President

Dr. William L. Stamey
Associate Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences

Colonel Ralph Wright, U.S.A.
Professor of Military Science

Colonel Bertram L. Ruggles, U.S.A.F.
Professor of Aerospace Studies

Much of the information contained in this paper is first hand experience. I was assigned to Kansas State University in June 1965 and actively participated in the transition from mandatory to voluntary ROTC.

Also I would thank Professor Rhae Swisher, who gave freely of his limited time to assist on technical points of the paper.

Lastly, I thank my wife, Gayle, and my children, without whose faith and understanding it would have been impossible to reach this point.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. INTRODUCTION	1
The Problem	1
Statement of the problem	1
Importance of the study	1
Definitions of Terms Used	2
Reserve Officer's Training Corps (R.O.T.C.)	2
Mandatory program	2
Voluntary program	2
Senior division	3
Junior division	3
Basic R.O.T.C. Course	3
Advanced R.O.T.C. Course	3
Four-Year Program	3
Two-Year Program	4
Summer camp - Field Training Unit (F.T.U.)	4
Financial Assistance Grant (F.A.G.)	5
Active duty commitment	5
Flight Instruction Program (F.I.P.)	5
Synopsis of the Paper	6
Footnotes for Chapter I	7

CHAPTER	PAGE
II. FEDERAL LEGISLATION AND DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE POLICY	
RELATING TO THE RESERVE OFFICER'S TRAINING CORPS	8
The Civil War to World War II	8
World War II	10
Department of Defense Policy in the	
1950's and the Early 1960's	10
The ROTC Vitalization Act of 1964	12
Footnotes for Chapter II	17
III. ROTC IN THE STATE OF KANSAS	18
The Problem Confronting Kansas	18
The Legislative Change in 1931	18
Repeal of the 1931 State Law	19
Footnotes for Chapter III	21
IV. KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY EFFECTS THE TRANSITION	
FROM MANDATORY TO VOLUNTARY ROTC	22
The First Attempt at Amendment of the 1931 Law	22
A Second Appeal for Regents' Control of ROTC	25
A Detailed Look at Some of the More Pertinent	
ROTC Questionnaire Responses	28
Kansas State Prepares Tentative Plans	32
Kansas State Adopts a Plan	38
The ROTC Departments Prepare for the Change	41
Footnotes for Chapter IV	44

CHAPTER	PAGE
V. SUMMARY	48
The General Plan	48
BIBLIOGRAPHY	53

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Not all colleges and universities have experienced a high rate of retention when moving from the mandatory to the voluntary Reserve Officer's Training Corps Program. No evaluation of procedures used by those schools which have changed from the mandatory to the voluntary Reserve Officer's Training Corps program has been made. The individual school's procedures have not been studied to see if any general procedures, that would apply in most situations, could be identified.

I. THE PROBLEM

Statement of the problem. It was the purpose of this paper to (1) trace the overall history of the Reserve Officer's Training Corps Program; (2) trace the history as it relates specifically to the State of Kansas and Kansas State University; (3) analyze the particular factors that brought about the successful transition at Kansas State University; (4) summarize the effectiveness of the change from a mandatory to a voluntary program; and (5) provide an organizational basis and management outline for other educational institutions to benefit from the experiences of Kansas State University's success.

Importance of the study. In changes from mandatory to voluntary Reserve Officer Training Corps Programs, maintaining high student enrollment has been a major problem. In the first semester following the