

MILITARY SERVICE

Exchange of notes at Washington November 6, 1943, and May 11 and June 13, 1944

Entered into force June 13, 1944

*Terminated March 31, 1947*¹

58 Stat. 1442; Executive Agreement Series 426

The Acting Secretary of State to the Chinese Ambassador

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON

November 6, 1943

EXCELLENCY:

I have the honor to refer to conversations which have taken place between officers of the Chinese Embassy and of the Department of State with respect to the application of the United States Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, as amended,² to Chinese nationals residing in the United States.

As you are aware, the Act provides that with certain exceptions every male citizen of the United States and every other male person between the ages of eighteen and sixty-five, residing in the United States, shall register. The Act further provides that, with certain exceptions, registrants within specified age limits are liable for active military service in the United States armed forces.

This Government recognizes that from the standpoint of morale of the individuals concerned and the over-all military effort of the countries at war with the Axis Powers, it would be desirable to permit certain nationals of cobelligerent countries who have registered or who may register under the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940, as amended, to serve in the armed forces of their own country, should they desire to do so. It will be recalled that during the World War this Government signed conventions with certain associated powers on this subject. The United States Government believes, however, that under existing circumstances the same ends may now be accomplished through administrative action, thus obviating the delays incident to the signing and ratification of conventions.

This Government is prepared, therefore, to initiate a procedure which will permit Chinese nationals who have registered under the Selective Training

¹ Upon termination of functions of U.S. Selective Service System (60 Stat. 341).

² 54 Stat. 885; 50 U.S.C. app.