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T PAMPHLET No. 21-4A

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**ADDITIONAL  
INFORMATION FOR SOLDIERS  
GOING BACK TO  
CIVILIAN LIFE**

**A Supplement Explaining the Provisions  
of the "GI Bill of Rights"  
(Public Law 346-78th Congress)**

WAR DEPARTMENT,  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 10 August 1944

War Department Pamphlet No. 21-4A

Additional Information for Soldiers Going Back to Civilian Life, is published for the information and guidance of all concerned.

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BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

G. C. MARSHALL,  
*Chief of Staff.*

OFFICIAL:

J. A. ULIO,  
*Major General,*  
*The Adjutant General.*

DISTRIBUTION:

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For explanation of symbols, see FM 21-6.

*This supplement to W. D. Pamphlet 21-4 explains the provisions of the so-called "GI Bill of Rights." It is not necessary for you to have a copy of W. D. Pamphlet 21-4 to understand the rights mentioned in this supplement.*

**Review of Discharge.** Unless you were discharged or dismissed by general court-martial sentence, you may at any time within 15 years request and receive a review of your discharge or dismissal. The review will be based on all available records, and such other evidence you may desire to present. You can appear before the reviewing board in person or by counsel. (Counsel, by operation of law, includes accredited representatives of veterans' organizations recognized by the Veterans' Administration). Your witnesses can appear in person, or their sworn statements can be presented to the board. The reviewing board may change or modify a discharge, or issue a new one if evidence warrants.

For such review make application in writing to The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C., setting out the facts and stating whether or not you desire to appear

before the board in person or by counsel, and whether you desire to present witnesses or affidavits.

**Review of Right to Retirement Pay.** If you are an officer retired or released to inactive service without pay because of a physical disability, you have the right at any time, within 15 years to request a review of the retiring board's decision. As above, you can appear before a reviewing board in person or by counsel, with witnesses or their affidavits.

For such review, make application in writing to The Adjutant General, Washington, D. C., as above.

**Education.** Educational aid for veterans is available from the Veterans' Administration provided: (1) you were discharged under conditions other than dishonorable; (2) you were not over 25 at the time you entered service, or can demonstrate that your education or training was interrupted or interfered with by your service; or you desire a refresher or re-training course; (3) you served 90 days or more (not counting the time in Army Specialized Training Program or Navy College Training Program, which course was a continuation of a civilian course and

was pursued to completion, or as a Cadet or Midshipman in a Service Academy) or were discharged or released from service because of an actual service incurred injury or disability; and (4) you start such education not later than two years after discharge or end of war (whichever date is later).

*Length of training.* One year (or its equivalent in part-time study). If you complete these courses satisfactorily, you will be entitled to additional education or training not to exceed the length of time you spent in active service after 16 September 1940 and before the end of the present war (not including ASTP or Navy College program). No course of education or training shall exceed 4 years.

*Expenses paid.* The Veterans' Administration will pay to the educational or training institution the customary cost of tuition, and such laboratory, library, infirmary and similar payments as are customarily charged, and may pay for books, supplies, equipment and such other necessary expenses (exclusive of board, lodging, other living expenses and travel) as are required. Such payments shall not exceed \$500 for an ordinary school-year.

*Where to apply.* Make application to the nearest regional office (or facility having regional office activities) of the Veterans' Administration, or directly to the educational institution you wish to attend. Proper application forms will be available at either of those places.

*Types of educational institution.* Public or private, elementary, secondary, and other schools furnishing education for adults; business schools and colleges; scientific and technical institutions; colleges, vocational schools, junior colleges, teachers' colleges, normal schools, professional schools, universities, and other educational and training institutions, including industrial establishments.

**If Unemployed.** To cover temporary periods of unemployment following discharge, financial help is available to you, either through State or Federal sources.

**State Programs.** State unemployment compensation programs provide weekly payments to unemployed workers based on their previous work in "covered" jobs—that is, most jobs in private firms in business

and industry; factories, shops, mines, mills, stores, office, bank, etc. Types of jobs not covered are farm work, household service, government and self-employment, and work for many small firms. Almost all the states have frozen any unemployment insurance rights you may have earned before going into service. You may be able to draw upon them in case you are unemployed after your return.

**Federal Provisions.** Weekly allowances of unemployment compensation are available through a Federal program if you are not eligible under a State program. If you qualify under both, money received under a State plan is subtracted from the Federal allowance. Under the Federal plan, you may receive four weeks of allowance for each calendar month of active service after 16 September 1940 and before the end of the present war, up to a total limit of 52 weeks.

If you are completely unemployed, your allowance is \$20 a week. If you are partially unemployed, you receive the difference between your wage and the weekly allowance plus \$3. If you are self-employed, you may still be eligible if your net earnings

in the previous calendar month were less than \$100. Allowances remaining unpaid at your death do not become part of your estate.

*Eligibility Requirements.* You must have served after 16 September 1940 and before the end of the present war, and have been discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable after 90 days active service, or because of injury or disability incurred in line of duty. Unemployment must have started within two years of discharge or the end of the war (whichever is later) and all allowances stop five years after the end of the war. When you file a claim, you must be residing in the United States, be completely unemployed or (if partially employed) be receiving weekly wages of less than \$23; you must register and continue to report to a public employment office, be able to work and be available for suitable work. Illness or disability which occurs during a period of unemployment for which allowances have already started will not disqualify you.

*Disqualifications.* You will be disqualified from receiving such allowances if you leave suitable work voluntarily and without good cause, if you are suspended or discharged for misconduct, if you fail with-

out good cause to apply for suitable work to which you have been referred by a public employment office, or to accept suitable work when offered, or if you fail without good cause to attend an available free training course. A job is not considered "suitable" if (a) the wages, hours, or conditions of work are substantially less favorable than those prevailing for similar work in the locality, or (b) the position offered is vacant due directly to a strike, lock-out, or labor dispute.

Such disqualifications begin the week in which the cause of the disqualification occurs and continue for not more than four weeks immediately following. Under special circumstances the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may extend the period of your disqualification.

You will also be disqualified from receiving an allowance for any week in which your unemployment is due to a "stoppage of work" existing because of a labor dispute in which you participated or are directly interested.

**Loans for Homes, Farms, Business.** These three types of loans are available to veterans who served on or after 16 September 1940 and before the end of the

present war, and who are discharged or released under conditions other than dishonorable, after active service of 90 days or more, or because of service-incurred injury or disability. Applications must be made within two years after discharge or separation, or two years after the end of the war (whichever is later), but in no event more than five years after the end of the war.

The Administrator of Veterans' Affairs will guarantee up to 50% of any such loan or loans, provided that the amount guaranteed shall not exceed a total of \$2,000. The Administrator will pay the interest on the guaranteed amount for the first year. Loans guaranteed by the Administrator bear interest of not more than 4% per year and must be paid up within twenty years.

Although the conditions vary somewhat for each type of loan, the general requirements are that the loan must be used for the purpose specified, that the terms of payment bear proper relationship to the veteran's anticipated income and expense, that the purchase price not exceed a reasonable normal value, that the property be useful and reasonably necessary, and, for farms or business loans, that the veteran have

such ability and experience as to provide a reasonable likelihood that he will be successful. Detailed information is available at any facility of the Veterans' Administration.

*A booklet describing other opportunities in farming, including loan provisions, is available upon request to the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C. Ask for "Shall I Be A Farmer?"*

