The functions and duties of the Executive Director shall
be prescribed by the Commission. The Commission is
authorized to appoint and fix the compensation of such
other personnel as may be necessary to enable it to carry
out its functions. The Commission is authorized to ob-
tain services in accordance with the provisions of section

SECTION 4. Cooperation by Federal Departments and
Agencies.

The Commission is authorized to request from any de-
partment, agency, or independent instrumentality of the
Federal Government any information deemed necessary
to carry out its functions, under this order; and each de-
partment, agency, and instrumentality is authorized, to
the extent permitted by law and within the limits of available
funds, to furnish such information to the
Commission.

SECTION 5. Termination of the Commission.

The Commission shall terminate ninety days after the
submission, pursuant to section 2 of this order, of its final
report to the President.

LYNDON B. JOHNSON
July 2, 1966

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:35 a.m.,
July 6, 1965]

NOTE: Executive Order 11209 was not made public in the form of a
White House press release.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

On July 2, 1968, the appointment of the following members of
the National Advisory Commission on Selective Service was an-
nounced at San Antonio, Tex., by the Office of the White House
Press Secretary:

BURKE MARSHALL (Chairman of the Commission), vice president
and general counsel, IBM, Armonk, N.Y.

KINGMAN BREWSTER, JR., president, Yale University

THOMAS S. GATES, JR., chairman of the board and chief executive
officer, Morgan Guaranty Trust Company, New York, N.Y.

OVETA CULP HOBBS, president and editor, Houston Post

ANNA ROSENBERG HOFFMAN, public and industrial relations
consultant, New York, N.Y.

PAUL J. JENKINS, president, International Union of Electrical,
Radio, and Machine Workers, AFL-CIO, New York, N.Y.

JOHN A. McCONE, investment banker and corporate director, San
Marino, Calif.

JAMES HENRY MCKRICKLEN, president, Southwest Texas State
College, San Marcos, Tex.

REV. JOHN COURTNEY MURRAY, Jesuit Priest, professor and author,
Woodstock, Md.

JEANNE L. NOBLE, associate professor, Center for Human Relations
Studies, New York University

GEORGE E. REEDY, JR., vice president, Strathern Wells Company,
New York, N.Y.

DAVID MONROE SHEPPARD, director, U.S. Life Insurance Company,
Arlington, Va.

FREDA R. SIMONE, professor of surgery, Western Reserve Uni-
versity, Ohio

JAMES A. SIEFFRIDGE, International president, Retail Clerks Inter-
national Association, Washington, D.C.

FRANK STANLEY SZYMANSKI, Judge of the Probate Court in De-
 troit

Availability of Government Records and Information

Statement by the President Upon Signing Bill Revising
Public Information Provisions of the Administrative

The measure I sign today, S. 1160, revises section 3 of the
Administrative Procedure Act to provide guidelines for the
public availability of the records of Federal depart-
ments and agencies.

This legislation springs from one of our most essential
principles: a democracy works best when the people have
all the information that the security of the Nation per-
mits. No one should be able to pull curtains of secrecy
around decisions which can be revealed without injury
to the public interest.

At the same time, the welfare of the Nation or the
rights of individuals may require that some documents
not be made available. As long as threats to peace exist,
for example, there must be military secrets. A citizen
must be able in confidence to complain to his Government
and to provide information, just as he is—and should be—free to confide in the press without fear of reprisal
or of being required to reveal or discuss his sources.

Fairness to individuals also requires that informa-
tion accumulated in personnel files be protected from disclosure. Officials within Government must be able to com-
municate with one another fully and frankly without publicity. They cannot operate effectively if required
to disclose information prematurely or to make public investiga-
tive files and internal instructions that guide them in
arriving at their decisions.

I know that the sponsors of this bill recognize these
important interests and intend to provide for both the
need of the public for access to information and the need
of Government to protect certain categories of informa-
tion. Both are vital to the welfare of our people. More-
over, this bill in no way impairs the President's power
under our Constitution to provide for confidentiality when
the national interest so requires. There are some
who have expressed concern that the language of this bill
will be construed in such a way as to impair Government
operations. I do not share this concern.
Handicapped Children and Child Development

Statement by the President Upon Announcing a Special Task Force To Study Existing Health and Education Programs and Recommend Legislation.

July 4, 1966

Health surveys indicate that many children in our Nation have serious physical handicaps. Over 400,000 children have epilepsy; over 500,000 have a hearing loss; nearly 3 million have speech defects; and 10 million have eye conditions requiring specialist care.

Other children will join the ranks of the 1 million school dropouts each year or become juvenile delinquents. Many other children have special health, education, and welfare needs.

There are more than 50 different programs in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare which relate to the needs and problems of handicapped youth.

In order to better develop more comprehensive health and education programs for children, I have directed the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare to establish a special task force on handicapped children and child development. This group will review all existing programs and recommend to the Secretary, for my consideration, legislation for the next Congress.

There has been very little attempt to detect and correct problems that might cause children to fail in later life. If the resources of the school and the community can be brought to bear on these problems before they become damaging, the child and the Nation will be greatly benefited. We must expand our national resources to help the handicapped and to prevent "failures" among our children.

NOTE: The statement was released at San Antonio, Tex.

Federal Employees Disabled in the Line of Duty


Fifty years ago a landmark piece of social legislation was enacted: the Federal Employees Compensation Act of 1916. Today I am happy to sign the Federal Employees Compensation Act Amendments of 1966, which modernize and strengthen this historic measure.

These amendments, the most significant improvement in the law in nearly 20 years, will provide expanded benefits for Federal employees who are disabled in the line of duty.

This law represents important progress in our national effort to provide working Americans and their families better protection against the economic hardship which accompanies work injuries and fatalities.

I am proud that the Federal Government is taking this forward step on behalf of its own employees, but the great majority of the Nation's workers are not covered by this law. They are covered instead by 50 State workmen's compensation laws. Many of these were modeled upon the original Federal Employees Compensation Act—but they have fallen behind.

As I sign this act, I strongly urge each State, in the light of these new Federal amendments, to examine its workmen's compensation law and act to assure that workers disabled by work injuries are properly compensated for the loss of their earnings.

We want not only the best system to compensate our Federal employees injured on duty—we want an adequate system for all American workers.

NOTE: As enacted, the Federal Employees Compensation Act Amendments of 1966 (H.R. 19721) is Public Law 89-488.

The statement was released at San Antonio, Tex.

Federal Employment of the Mentally Retarded

Memorandum to the President From John W. Macy, Jr., Chairman, U.S. Civil Service Commission, Transmitting His Report. July 5, 1966

The attached report presents the successful achievements in Federal employment of the mentally retarded through May 31, 1966.

This record is a tribute to the retarded as well as those who have assured them an opportunity to become "taxpayers rather than tax burdens." A measure of the program's success is revealed in the following statistics: