The Selective Service System made public today the following telegram sent to all State Directors:

The President has proclaimed a state of national emergency. The Government of the United States is exerting every possible effort to place this Nation in a position which will insure its self-preservation. Congress has enacted the Selective Training and Service Act for the purpose of securing adequate men and has appropriated funds for the procurement of essential arms and equipment for the armed forces. Men by the hundreds of thousands have been selected and are now in training under the Selective Service Act. These men are giving their whole efforts to become strong in body, disciplined in mind, skilled and trained in the methods by which the country will be defended. These citizen soldiers have been promised that arms, supplies and equipment will be furnished by their fellow citizens who are engaged in the production of ships, airplanes, tanks, guns, and other necessary munitions and supplies. They know that other registrants have been deferred from service in the armed forces to accomplish that purpose. They demand that no citizen hesitate to do his full share in the strengthening of the defense of America. Our citizen soldiers have merged their individual desires in the common objective; the citizens who have been deferred because they are necessary in the production of defense supplies and equipment, may not refuse to do likewise.

The basic principle upon which Selective Service operates is to keep the man on the job where he can render the greatest service to his Government. The citizen who has been deferred because of the job he is performing in the national defense program, cannot expect to retain the status of deferment when he ceases to work on the job for which he was deferred. The status of deferment and the responsibility to perform the necessary work are inseparable.

Therefore, I hereby direct all agencies of the Selective Service System to take the necessary action to reconsider the classification of all registrants who have ceased to perform the jobs for which they were deferred, and who are, by such failure, impeding the national defense program.

END.
STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT:

Continuous production in the Los Angeles plant of North American Aviation, Inc., is essential to National Defense. It is engaged in the production of airplanes vital to our defense and much of the property in the plant is owned, directly or indirectly, by the United States. Production in this plant has ceased because of a labor dispute.

Conciliation was resorted to and efforts at conciliation failed. The dispute was then certified by the Secretary of Labor to the National Defense Mediation Board.

The course of mediation has now been interrupted in violation of an agreement entered into by the bargaining representatives of the workers to continue production during the course of the mediation. Full stoppage of production has resulted. This has created a situation seriously detrimental to the defense of the United States.

Because of this situation, as President and Commander in Chief of the armed forces of the United States, I have determined that this plant must be reopened at once. I have therefore directed that the Secretary of War shall immediately take charge of the plant and remain in charge and operate the plant until normal production shall be resumed.

Our country is in danger and the men and women who are now making airplanes play an indispensable part in its defense. I call upon the workers to return to their jobs, with full confidence in the desire and ability of this Administration to protect their persons and their interests. I have an abiding confidence in the loyalty and patriotism of the American workers and I am sure that they will seize this opportunity to cooperate in the national interest. Their fundamental rights as free citizens will be protected by the Government and negotiations will be conducted through the process of collective bargaining to reach a settlement fair and reasonable to the workers and to the company. The company already has stated that any such settlement will be retroactive to May 1st.

The Army has been directed to afford protection to all workers entering or leaving the plant, and in their own homes.
Executive Order

WHEREAS on the twenty-seventh day of May, 1941, a Presidential proclamation was issued, declaring an unlimited national emergency and calling upon all loyal citizens in production for defense to give precedence to the needs of the Nation to the end that a system of government which makes private enterprise possible may survive; and calling upon all our loyal workers as well as employers to merge their lesser differences in the larger effort to insure the survival of the only kind of government which recognizes the rights of labor or of capital, and calling upon all loyal citizens to place the Nation's needs first in mind and in action to the end that we may mobilize and have ready for instant defensive use, all of the physical powers, all of the moral strength and all of the material resources of the Nation; and

WHEREAS North American Aviation, Inc., at its Inglewood plant in the City of Los Angeles, State of California, has contracts with the United States for the manufacture of military aircraft and other material and articles vital to the defense of the United States; and the United States owns aircraft in the course of production, raw materials, machinery, and other property situated in the said Company's plant, and

WHEREAS a controversy arose at said plant over terms and conditions of employment between the company and the workers which they have been unable to adjust by collective bargaining; and whereas the controversy was duly certified to the National Defense Mediation Board, established by the Executive Order of March 19, 1941; and whereas before the negotiations had been concluded before the said Board, and in violation of an agreement between the bargaining representatives of the company and the workers authorized to appear before the Board and conduct the negotiations, production at said plant of said aircraft and other articles and materials vital to the defense of the United States was interrupted by a strike which still continues, and

WHEREAS the objectives of said proclamation of May 27, 1941 are jeopardized and the ability of the United States to obtain aircraft essential to its armed forces and to the national defense is seriously impaired by said cessation of production, and

WHEREAS for the time being and under the circumstances hereinabove set forth it is essential in order that such operations be assured and safeguarded that the plant be operated by the United States;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Franklin D. Roosevelt, pursuant to the powers vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, as President of the United States of America and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy of the United States, hereby authorize and direct that the Secretary of War immediately take possession of and operate the said plant of North American Aviation, Inc., through such person or persons as he may designate, to produce the aircraft and other articles and material called for by its contracts with the United States or otherwise, and to do all things necessary or incidental thereto. Such necessary or appropriate adjustments shall be made with respect to existing and future contracts and with
respect to compensation to the company, as further orders hereafter issued by the Secretary of War shall provide. The Secretary of War shall employ or authorize the employment of such employees, including a competent civilian advisor on industrial relations, as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this order. And I hereby direct the Secretary of War to take such measures as may be necessary to protect workers returning to the plant.

Possession and operation hereunder shall be terminated by the President as soon as he determines that the plant will be privately operated in a manner consistent with the needs of the national defense.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

THE WHITE HOUSE,
June 9, 1941, 10:40 a. m., E. S. T.