

## Part I.

### Curriculum Unit Introduction:

**Title of unit:** Civilian Conservation Corps .

**Vital theme of the unit:** To recognize the contribution that the Civilian Conservation Corps contributed to the building of the Great Smoky Mountains. As well as showing examples of what the CCC camp life was like through primary sources and people who lived at a CCC camp.

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**Grade level:** Fourth & Fifth

**Number of lessons in the unit:** 3

**Time needed to complete unit:** 5 days

#### Curriculum standards addressed—list

4.2.spi.1. recognize the concept for supply and demand.

5.5spi.5. interpret a visual contrasting life before and after World War II. (i.e. education, family, size, transportation, urbanization, and the role of women).

5.2. spi.1. differentiate between needs and wants on a personal and national level.

**Unit introduction and overview of instructional plan:** Lesson one will start with a lesson on supply and demand and rationing. Lesson two the students will research the Civilian Conservation Corps, learning what it is and who created it. Lesson three students choose a headline from the book, “Don’t you know there’s a war going on?”, by author, Avi. Or students can create a cartoon depicting the day in the life of a CCC enrollee. The students will create their war time poster promoting one of the wartime activities, or the CCC cartoon, for example, “Buy War Bonds for Bombs”, or “Loose Lips Sink Ships”. Students will be shown examples of World War II posters & CCC cartoons.

## **Part II. Primary source document**

Life was not easy in the 1930's for people like my Grandfather, Clarence Claude Murphy. He was a single man, uneducated, young and poor, living in Monroe County located in Southeast Tennessee. My Grandfather was born and raised in Coker Creek, Tennessee. He like millions of other Americans were desperate for work. Times were hard and sometimes frustrating. As a young man my Grandfather discovered that jobs were tremendously scarce to find especially living in a rural area.

Living in Coker Creek, a rural Appalachia mountain community, my Grandfather discovered that there were not many jobs available. The financial future of his family improved drastically when he heard about the jobs and training being offered in Gatlinburg. Men would be building roads and parks, through an organization called the Civilian Conservation Corps or CCC. My grandfather signed up quickly with his brothers and cousins and they headed to Gatlinburg to the Sugarlands to work and be trained for a period of 6 months to one year. Thanks to the efforts of men like my Grandfather, East Tennesseans now have the Smoky Mountain National Forest. While working at the CCC camp in Gatlinburg, my Grandfather walked downtown to Gatlinburg and met a local girl named, Maggie May Parton, my Granny. They married and had four children. In 1940 when the Roosevelt's came to the dedication of the Smoky Mountains National Park, my Granny was honored by presenting Eleanor Roosevelt with fabric made from my families looms. Later he was drafted into the army and fought in World War II.

As you read this primary source document you will read about the CCC or Civilian Conservation Corps that both my paternal and maternal Grandfathers worked in with 70,000 other Tennesseans. The CCC was the brainchild of President, Franklin D. Roosevelt. Carroll Van West stated in his book, that the CCC was the most popular of the New Deal's alphabet agencies. On August 12, 1933 the Knoxville Journal claimed ***"its work well worth doing. It accomplishes the relief of families in need and the rehabilitation of jobless and discouraged men."*** Many people were impressed with the CCC. Roosevelt seemed to be a mover and a shaker, he was optimistic about turning around our countries economic demise through the CCC. Van West states that the development of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park was one of President Roosevelt's personal favorites, he even participated in the dedication of Newfound Gap. Through the CCC, President Roosevelt wanted to train young men with skills that would allow them an opportunity to better themselves, as well as helping their families financially. His attitude is evident in that he came up with the CCC program just days after his inauguration.

Roosevelt's created a proposal for emergency conservation work, later known as the CCC. Roosevelt stated the following:

***"This enterprise is an established part of our national policy. It will conserve our precious natural resources. It will pay dividends to the present and future generations. It will make improvements in National and State domains which have been largely forgotten in the past few years of industrial development"***.

***"More important, however, than the material gains will be the moral and spiritual value of such work. The overwhelming majority of unemployed Americans, who are now walking the streets and receiving private or public relief, would infinitely prefer to work. We can take a vast army of these unemployed out into healthful surroundings. We can eliminate to some extent at least the threat that enforced idleness brings to***

***spiritual and moral stability. It is not a panacea for all the unemployment but it is an essential step in this emergency. I ask its adoption”.***

The bill passed and on March 31, 1933 the CCC or Civilian Conservation Corps began. The CCC created many needed jobs and lifted many American's morale. As you look over this document reader you will see how my Grandfather, and his family and friends along with about 4000 other Civilian Conservation Corps enrollees lived. The first document #1 is a letter from President Roosevelt, written to the CCC men. He wrote this letter just a few months after the CCC began. It was written three months after the start of the Civilian Conservation Corps began. In this letter he congratulates these men on their cooperation and outlook in this new endeavor.

Document #2 is an example of correspondence between officials at the CCC camp to T.J McVey, requesting larger accommodations for his officers. Document #3 shows the interest that Mr. McVey had with the poor quality of goggles that were being used at camp NP-10. This letters shows that he was concerned about having poor quality supplies. Document #4 is a letter from John M. Gibbs to Mr. McEntee. It is rather comical that Mr. Gibbs viewed Mr. McVey as “a bit cantankerous” in his inspections, yet in the document #3 Mr. McVey's thorough inspection was helpful to Mr. Gibbs company. Document #5 shows two newspaper articles about the CCC camps. The first article is about basketball, one of the many sports there was to play at the CCC camps. Sports were brought in to lower desertion and created a more positive environment for the men. Article number 2 below is about a journalism class that was offered to the 1458 and 1459, Sevierville, CCC men. Many educational classes were offered to the men to help improve their work skills and knowledge.

Document #6 gives the reader an idea about the type of work the CCC men did. For example, they erected phone lines, built trails and landscaped. Working at the CCC camps was not a easy job. These men worked long and hard every day. In Document # 7 you see an example of the type of meals that the CCC men endured. As you can see they ate well. For many poor men, like my Grandfather, good food was a nice incentive to join the CCC. Document # 8, 9,10, 11 & 12 you will look at official documents of a court case against a 19 year old deserter, Richard R. Pressley. Pressley was only enlisted for four days, when he refused to work. As you read this document you will see the unhappiness that some young enrollees felt at the CCC camps. Many of these young boys were simply not happy at the CCC camps. Therefore, they were dishonorably discharged for refusing to perform their duties. As Mr. Pressley simply stated “I wish to go home”. He too was dishonorably discharged. Document # 13 This is a very long article written by Raymond Gram Swing on reasons why the Army should be taken out of the CCC. Many felt that the training that these men received in the CCC camps was helpful in preparing them for future military. It gives some great examples of the path that the CCC took from the very beginning, after the New Deal and where it was headed. Document # 14 This document was from the director, of the CCC, Robert Fechner. Fechner speaks about his hopes for the future of the CCC. He points out how he will continue to help the youth of American, to continue to become self-reliant. Document #15 explains why the CCC was terminated. This document is very informative about the conclusion of the CCC. It shows the role that World War II played with the termination of the CCC.

The CCC played a crucial role in creating the National Parks that we have here today. It was a strong program that assisted many Americans in their time of need. President Roosevelt helped created a wonderful organization, in many peoples time of need. I can honestly state that I would not be here today if it were not for the Civilian Conservation Corps.

### Transcribed Documents

**Any correction made to the following documents will be in red**

#### **Document # 1**

This is a letter written by President Roosevelt to the men of the Civilian Conservation Corps. This letter was written just over 3 months after the CCC started.

#### **Greetings to the Civilian Conservation Corps**

**July 8, 1933**

1. I welcome the opportunity to extend, through the medium of the columns of Happy Days, a greeting to the men who constitute the Civilian Conservation Corps.
2. Congratulations are due those responsible for the successful accomplishment of the gigantic task of creating the camps, arranging for the enlistments and launching the greatest peacetime movement this country has ever seen.
3. It is my belief that what is being accomplished will conserve our natural resources, create future national wealth and prove of moral and spiritual value not only to those of you who are taking part, but to the rest of the country as well.
4. You young men who are enrolled in this work are to be congratulated as well. It is my honest conviction that what you are doing in the way of constructive service will bring to you, personally and individually, returns the value of which it is difficult to estimate. Physically fit, as demonstrated by the examinations you took before entering the camps, the clean life and hard work in which you are engaged cannot fail to help your physical condition and you should emerge from this experience strong and rugged and ready for a reentrance into the ranks of industry, better equipped than before. Opportunities for employment in work; for which individually you are best suited are increasing daily and you should emerge from this experience splendidly equipped for the competitive fields of endeavor which always marl; the industrial life of America.

I want to congratulate you on the opportunity you have and to express to you my appreciation for the hearty cooperation which you have given this movement which is so vital a step in the Nation's fight against the depression and to wish you all a pleasant, wholesome and constructively helpful stay in the woods.

Document #1

Title: [Greetings to the Civilian Conservation Corps](#)

[Author:](#) Roosevelt, Franklin D. [Date:](#) July 8, 1933

[Publisher:](#) Works of Franklin D. Roosevelt [www.newdeal.feri.org](http://www.newdeal.feri.org)

Reprinted in *The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt*, Vol. 2, 1933, (New York City: Random House, 1938), p. 271.

Document # 2

This is a official government document from Commander H. F. Holt. In this letter Holt is requesting additional sleeping quarters for his men that are of a higher rank.

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK  
GATLINBURG, TENNESSEE  
December 11, 1934

Commanders Co. 1458 & 1459  
Camp H. A. Morgan  
Sevierville, Tennessee

Gentlemen:

Under present regulation, using service employees with rating of 1<sup>st</sup>. Lt. should have equal quarters and accommodations as army officers.

The following are a list of N.P. S. men who have this rating: H. F. Holt, Proj. Supt., Hugh K. Harris, Landscape Tech., T.K. Peas, Landscape Tech., F. B. Henderson, Gen Truck Trail Foreman, W.L. Zoder, Misc. Cons. Foreman.

The present quarters consists of four bedrooms, all of which are occupied by educational advisor and officers of the two companies.

I wish to request that additional sleeping quarters be provided to accommodate the above number of men by

adding on the present building at least four rooms,  
which can be done at reasonable expenses, and without  
affecting the character of the building.

Yours truly,  
H. F. Holt, Project Supt.,  
Camp H. A. Morgan

Submitted by.

Emergency  
FEB 16 1935  
RECEIVED  
CONSERVATION WORK

T J McVey 2-12-1935

Signature above

stamp

Gatlinburg, TN. NP-10 CO # 1459 No. 2069 Box 1 Series 1 Folder 13  
UT Archives, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Document #3 This document shows how Mr. McVey looked out for his CCC men, he is  
writing his superiors to inform them that the goggles they use are not up to par.

#### EMERGENCY CONSERVATION WORK

#### OFFICE MEMORANDUM

File Reference

February 23, 1935.

From John m. Gibbs

To: Mr. Lauderdale

Mr. McVey inspected camp NP-10 at Sevierville, Tennessee, on February 13,  
1935, and among other things contained in his report, he states as follows:

“The goggles in use at both of these camps, namely, NP-2 and NP-10, are  
nothing more than ten cent articles sold in Five and Ten Cent Stores. I  
have broken the lenses in two pairs with a small pocket-knife to demon-  
strate the worthless quality and advised against their future use.”

Document # 3

Gatlinburg, TN. NP-10 CO # 1459 No. 2069 Box 1 Series 1 Folder 13  
UT Archives, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Document # 4 In this letter Mr. Gibbs is expressing his personal views of Mr. McVey, whom he stated was “a bit cantankerous”. This letter shows how stressful life in the CCC was even in the upper ranks.

EMERGENCY CONSERVATION WORK  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

July 18, 1934

From: John M. Gibbs

To: Mr. McEntee

I sent you a few days ago, if I mistake not, a complaint about the tactics used by Mr. McVey in making his camp inspections. It seems to me that here of late the old gentleman has gotten just a bit cantankerous, and that he may be over-stepping his authority. Hereto attached are two reports from him, one covering the 1459<sup>th</sup> Company at Gatlinburg, Tennessee, and the other covering the 1460<sup>th</sup> Company at Sevierville, Tennessee. Will you please turn to his supplemental reports and read those portions which have been underscored. It is my opinion that he can destroy his usefulness if he becomes so dictatorial that Camp Commanders will shy away from him. I have made no attempt to lay his complaints before the Adjutant General or to write Mr. McVey to tone down somewhat. If you want me to handle further with him or with the War Department, please indicate your wishes.

Att. 2

John M. Gibbs

Signature

Document #4

Gatlinburg, TN. NP-10 CO # 1459 No. 2069 Box 1 Series 1 Folder 13  
UT Archives, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Document #5 This document shows two newspaper articles about the CCC camps. The first article is about basketball, one of the many sports there was to play at the CCC camps. Sports were brought in to lower desertion and created a more positive environment for the men. Article number 2 below is about a journalism class that was offered to the 1458 and 1459, Sevierville, CCC men. Many educational classes were offered to the men to help improve their work skills and knowledge.

5/26/34

1459

Great Cage Season is Brought to Light

Lets turn back the clock for a moment, and take a look at the real basketball record. Co. 1459, Gatlinburg, Tenn., played some of strongest independent teams in the vicinity, says reporter Ed DeLozier, and annexed the Sevier County Independent championship in addition to the title of group 6, C.C.C. League. The outfit was definitely headed toward the championship of District "C" as well, when the tourney was called off.

This squad played a total of twenty games. And lost but one—and that by only one point to a team which was later trounced twice. Co. 1459 piled up a total of 934 points against its opponents 550. Not bad, eh?

10/27/34

The journalism class of Co. 1458 and 1459. Sevierville, Tenn., centers around the editing of the company paper. This furnishes an unusual opportunity to gain co-ordinated experience and instruction.

Document #5

Gatlinburg, TN. NP-10 CO # 1459 No. 2069 Box 1 Series 1 Folder 13  
UT Archives, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Document #6 This document gives the reader an idea about the type of work the CCC men did. For example, they erected phone lines, built trails and landscaped.

Company 1458 & 1459  
Camp Tenn NP-2 & NP-10  
Gatlinburg, Tennessee

February 10, 1934

#### SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Superintendent reports the following work has been accomplished:

Erected 14 miles telephone lines.  
Reduction of fire hazards 3110 acres.  
Trail side clearing 1 8/10 miles.  
Fighting forest fires 238 man days.  
Fire Pre Suppression 213 man days.  
Fire Prevention 112 man days.  
Construction of truck trails 6 9/10 miles.  
Construction of minor roads ½ mile.  
Construction of horse trails 19 ½ miles.  
Construction of foot trails 2 miles.  
Public camp ground clearing 16 8/10 acres.  
Topographic survey 50 acres.  
Erected 2 foot bridges.  
Erected 10 vehicle bridges.  
Landscaping 30 acres.  
Trail locating 15 miles.  
Truck trail maintenance 8 2/10 miles.  
Forest trail maintenance 13 ½ miles.  
Hauled 250 loads stone for camp site roads.

Respectfully Submitted

T. J. McVey  
Signature

Special Inspector

Document # 6

Gatlinburg, TN. NP-10 CO # 1459 No. 2069 Box 1 Series 1 Folder 13,  
UT Archives, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Document # 7 Is an example of the type of the type of meals that the CCC men  
endured. As one can see the CCC men ate rather well.

Civilian Conservation Corps

Company 1458 ; N.P. 2

Sevierville, Tenn. February 8 - 1937

Menu for seven days. February 1<sup>st</sup> to February 7<sup>th</sup> 1939, Inclusive

February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1937

Breakfast

Apples

Oatmeal

Fresh milk

Hot Biscuits

Fried Potatoes

Scrambled Eggs

Butter & Jam

Dinner

Beef Al-amode

Mashed Potatoes

Fried Sting Beans

Sliced Onions

Bread Pudding

Coffee

L. Bread

Supper

Beef Roast

Cream Potatoes

Fried Spinach (w) eggs

Pinto Beans

Lettuce & Mayonnaise

Butter & Jam

Cocoa

Hot Rolls

February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1937

Breakfast

Grapefruit Boiled

Rice Krispies

Fresh Milk

Hot Biscuits

Fried Sausage

Gravy

Butter & apple Sauce

Coffee

Dinner

Beef & Potatoes

Kidney Beans

Cold Slaw

Sliced Onions

Cottage Pudding

L. Bread

Supper

Chilia Con Carne

Oysters Crackers

Canded Yams

Fried Hominy

Cold Tomatoes

Blackberry Cobbler

Butter

Hot Rolls

Water

February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1937

Breakfast

Stewed Peaches

Boiled Rice

Fresh Milk

Hot Biscuits

Fried Bacon

Scrambled Eggs

Coffee

Dinner

Macaroni & Cheese

Cold Tomatoes

Lima Beans

Fried Cabbage

Dried Peach Cobbler

Coffee

L. Bread

Supper

Fried Beef Stake

Brown Gravy

Fried egg Plant

Green Beans

Cream Couliflower

Butter & Jam

Lemonade

Hot Rolls

Report made by. T. J McVey

Signature

Document # 7

CCC, Civilian Conservation Corps, Company # 1458, Gatlinburg, Tenn. NP-2, MS 2069, Box 1, Series 1, Folder 12, UT Archives, University of Tennessee, Knoxville Document # 8, 9,10,11 & 12 are of a court case against a 19 year old deserter, Richard R. Pressley. Pressley was only enlisted for four days, when he refused to work. As you read the following document you will see the sadness that occurred at the CCC camps. Many of these young boys simply were not happy at the CCC camps. Therefore, they were dishonorably discharged for refusing to perform their duties. As Mr. Pressley simply stated "I wish to go home". He too was dishonorably discharged.

Document # 8

Transcript of Testimony

1st Lt. Siegmund Wachtel, 320<sup>th</sup> F. A. Commanding CCC Company No. 1458, made the following statement under oath:

On April 8, 1939, it was necessary to turn over to the Using Service the entire company less regular Army overhead in order to make up time lost during the regular work days due to rain. At regular work call enrollees Richard L Johnson, CC4-321008, Richard R. Pressley, CC4-321006, Dewey L. Riden, CC4-321008, James H. Ogle, CC4-321015, Elmer R. White, CC4-321021 were reported absent. I had Lt. Owen the Junior Officer, and Edward K. Rochelle, CC4-308826, acting Senior Leader made a check of the camp to see if the men were in the camp area. All the men were found in the camp in their barracks, they were informed that this dry 9(April 8, 1939) was a regular day and that they would get in work clothes and be sent out on the job. They stated that they knew it was a regular work day, but that it would not be for them because they were going home. These men were brought before me, I talked with each man individually and with them as a group. They were determined to quit regardless of the type of discharge they would receive. I explained fully to them what refusing to work meant if a hearing was held and they were found guilty. I tried every means at my disposal in order to get them to give the camp a fair trial, I had others to try and reason with them but it was no use. A trial was held and from the testimony given they are found guilty and discharge. These men should have never been given the opportunity to enroll and their staying only four days kept good men out.

The accused, having been accorded the right to cross examine the witness, stated he did not desire to do so.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of my testimony in the case of Richard R. Pressley, CC4-321006, heard before me this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April A. D. 1939.

(stamp)

**CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS**  
May 24 1939

Siegmund Wachtel,  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. 320<sup>th</sup> F. A.

Received

Commanding CCC Co. 1458

EXHIBIT "A"

Document # 8

Gatlinburg, TN. NP-10 CO # 1459 No. 2069 Box 1 Series 1 Folder 13,  
UT Archives, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Document # 9

Transcript of Testimony

Acting Senior Leader Edward K. Rochelle, CC4-308826, A witness Against the accused,  
having been duly sworn, testified as follows:

Questioned By 1<sup>st</sup> LT. Siegmund Wachtel. The Company Commander:

Q. Please state your name,

A. Edward K. Rochelle, Acting Senior Leader, CCC Co. 1458, Sevierville, Tenn.

Q. Do you know the accused Mbr. Richard R. Pressley,

A. Yes Sir.

Q. Is this he.

A. Yes Sir.

Q. Did you receive instructions from the Company **Commander** to send this man out  
on the trucks to work.

A. Yes Sir.

Q. Where did you receive these instructions.

A. At CCC Co. 1458, Sevierville, Tenn.

Q. At what time.

A. About 8:00 A.M. April 8, 1939.

Q. Did all the men go out to work.

A. Mbr. Richard R. Pressley refused to go out to work

Q. Did Mbr. Richard R. Pressley tell you the reason he refused to work.

A. Yes Sir. He said that he wanted to go home and was not going to work.

Q. When Richard R. Pressley refused to go out to work did you admonish him and  
urge him to return to work and if he didn't it would mean an Administrative  
Discharge.

A. Yes Sir.

Q. Is there anything further you would like to introduce at this time.

A. No Sir.

The accused, having been accorded the right to cross examine the witness, stated he did not desire to do so.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of testimony of Edward K. Rochelle, CC4-308826, in the case of Richard R. Pressley, CC4-321006, heard before me this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April A.D. 1939.

(stamp)

CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS  
May 24 1939  
Received

Siegmund Wachtel,  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. 320<sup>th</sup> F. A.  
Commanding CCC Co. 1458

#### EXHIBIT "B"

Document # 9

Gatlinburg, TN. NP-2 CO # 1458 No. 2069 Box 1 Series 1 Folder 12,  
UT Archives, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Document # 10

#### Transcript of Testimony

Member Richard R. Pressley CC4-321006, the Accused, having been advised of his right to remain silent, his right to make a statement under oath and subject himself to cross-examination, and his right to make an unsworn statement and not subject himself to cross-examination, elected to and did make the following unsworn statement:

*I refuse to work because I wish to go home, I have no complaint to make about the way I have been treated since I have been here either by enrollees or personnel.*

The accused, not having made a statement under oath was not cross-examined by the Company Commander.

I certify that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the unsworn testimony of the accused heard before me on this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of April A. D. 1939.

Siegmund Wachtel,  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. 320<sup>th</sup> F. A.  
Commanding CCC Co. 1458

(stamp)  
CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS  
May 24 1939  
Received

EXHIBIT "C"

Document #10  
Gatlinburg, TN. NP-2 CO # 1458 No. 2069 Box 1 Series 1 Folder 12,  
UT Archives, University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Document # 11

Record of (unreadable) Punishment

I certify the following previous punishment has been administered to Mbr. Richard R. Pressley, Serial No. CC4-321006 the accused, following hearing under paragraph 40, CCC Regulations, War Department, 1937:

Record of hearing No. None  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Penalty \_\_\_\_\_  
Offense \_\_\_\_\_

Record of hearing No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Dated \_\_\_\_\_  
Penalty \_\_\_\_\_  
Offense \_\_\_\_\_

I further certify that this enrolled has received the following admonitions or light punishment for offenses not deemed serious enough for the holding of a hearing under Paragraph 40 f, CCC Regs., WD 1939.

Record of hearing No. None  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Penalty \_\_\_\_\_  
Offense \_\_\_\_\_

Record of hearing No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Penalty \_\_\_\_\_  
Offense \_\_\_\_\_

I further certify that after careful study of this individual, taking into consideration the evidence revealed by hearing No. 7, and his previous Record and conduct, and having

considered the proposition of administering punishment less **severe** and realizing that one of the purposes of the Civilian Conservation Corps is to provide emergency relief to the allottees, I have deemed, in my discretion, that Dishonorable Discharge is warranted in lieu of further company punishment for the following reasons:

The evidence presented in this hearing proves onclusively that the accused was guilty of refusing to work in order to obtain a discharge. This offense cannot be **counterneed (unreadable)** in the civilian Conservation Corps.

I further certify that Enrollee Richard R. Pressley is 19 years of age and has had a total service of 4 days in the CCC.

(stamp)

**CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS**  
**May 24 1939**  
**Received**

Siegmund Wachtel,  
1<sup>st</sup> Lt. 320<sup>th</sup> F. A.  
Commanding CCC Co. 1458

EXHIBIT "D"

Document # 11

Gatlinburg, TN. NP-10 CO # 1459 No. 2069 Box 1 Series 1 Folder 13,  
UT Archives, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Document # 12

Record of Hearing

Hearing No. 7

Company No.: 1458  
Project Destination: Tenn. NP-2  
Place: Sevierville, Tenn.  
Date (or dates) : April 8<sup>th</sup> 1938 1. 1.

1. Accused: Pressley, Richard R. cc4-321006
2. Represented by: Lt. Willard Leon Owen Jr. 321<sup>st</sup> F. A. Junior Officer
3. The Offense: Refusal to perform duties in order to obtain a discharge. Per par. 40 e (1) ( c ), WDR, CCC. 12-1-37. In the enrollee Richard R. Pressley did on April 8, 1939 refuse to perform reasonable duties required by 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Siegmund Wachtel, 320<sup>th</sup> F. A. the Company Commander.
4. Procedure: It is certified that the procedure followed prior to arraignment of the accused, upon arraignment, and during this hearing is that set forth in par. 40 b, 4CA SR, CCC. 1939, and that the accused was concisely and clearly informed of all his rights under par. 40 (f) and (g), CCC Regs., WD, 1937.
5. Plea of the Accused: Guilty.

6. Names of Witnesses:

- a. Against the accused: 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Siegmund Wachtel, Edward K. Rochelle.
- b. For the Accused: none.

7. Testimony of the witnesses: See exhibits "A" & "B" .

8. Testimony of Accused: I refuse to work because I wish to go home, I have no complaint to make about the way I have been treated since I have been here either by enrollees or Personnel.

9. Findings: Guilty.

10. Previous Punishment: None. See exhibit "C"

11. Punishments Adjudged: Administrative discharge.

(stamp)

CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS

May 24 1939

Received

Siegmund Wachtel,  
(Signature of Company Commander)

(Record of Hearing will be rewarded by endorsement using reverse side)

Gatlinburg, TN. NP-10 CO # 1459 No. 2069 Box 1 Series 1 Folder 13,  
UT Archives, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Document # 13 This is a very long article written by Raymond Gram Swing on reasons why the Army should be taken out of the CCC. It gives some great examples of the path that the CCC took from the very beginning, after the New Deal and where it was headed.

## **Take the Army Out of the CCC**

**Raymond Gram Swing**

*--Washington, October 14*

1. The CCC has become the bright jewel of the New Deal. At the beginning, the fact that the army was in it aroused alarm, for the camps looked like the nucleus of a fascist militia. While here and there individual mistakes and local circumstances he' e made camps unpopular, on the whole the CCC is liked throughout the breadth of the land, and deservedly so. The military element has shown laudable restraint. The idea of giving unemployed young men healthy outdoor work under camp routine has won enthusiastic approval. As a form of relief the CCC has avoided the pitfalls of other relief agencies. And conservation has been both furthered and publicized. It was inevitable that an experiment which turned out successfully should be placed on a permanent basis. And now the decision to give the CCC a regular status in American life has been made. The President has announced it, and the Administration will have a definite program to lay before Congress early next year. After it has been announced, no doubt there will be a brief public discussion, but the CCC is worth careful thought, and both the Administration and Congress will benefit if the country begins the debate sooner.
2. Obviously the first bone of contention is the place of the army in a permanent CCC. The army played a vital role in establishing the camps. It built and equipped the barracks, and it has fed, clothed, and transported the men and been responsible for discipline. Otherwise the camps could hardly have had so great a success. Yet that is not an argument for continuing the army in the organization. When the CCC work was first conceived, the government had no agency other than the army which had the experience, organization, and equipment to get the new experiment under way rapidly. In the main that work is now finished. More than enough camps have been built. The clothing and feeding of the men is now routinized. The only arguments for continuing the cooperation of the army are that it can manage the physical safety so much better than any other agency that it should be given the task for all time; and that the discipline imposed by army officers is more desirable than any other kind.
3. No one will deny that the army runs a commissariat on a large scale and operates with central purchasing facilities, and in both is competent and economical. A permanent CCC, however, knowing in advance the requirements of 200,000 young men, could also establish itself on an efficient basis. Whatever economies the army is able to maintain, the CCC by itself either could equal or at least come close to, so that the savings of any army administration would be insubstantial.

4. Discipline at present is in the hands of the reserve officer in command at each camp. His powers over his 200 workers are strictly limited. He can assess fines up to \$3 a month, assign men to distasteful work, or dismiss them from the camp (whereupon their families lose their relief). He is supreme in the camp. A young man charged with breaking discipline is given a "hearing" at what really is a summary. He is entitled to be represented by a colleague and he has an appeal to a district officer and finally to the corps area commander.
5. It is obvious that the only arguable advantage from having an army officer in charge is the prestige the army may enjoy with members of the camp or the fear it may inspire. If the workers are recruited from the sidewalks of a congested city, it may be thought that the hard-headed youngsters will be impressed by a uniform which represents the entire United States army. But these young men know that the whole United States army is not in fact embodied in their commanding officer. He is only a reservist; he was--almost certainly--out of a job when the camp saved him. And he has very narrow powers. The worst penalty he can inflict is not very serious. His most telling sanction is economic, expulsion from camp, which means the loss of relief to the family at home. And this has nothing to do with things military. Discipline in the camps has been well or badly enforced, according to the individuality of officers; immeasurably more of it has been good than bad. But where it has been good, it has been so because the officer was capable, not because he was an officer. Here and there an officer has had a superiority complex and has demanded cringing respect from those in his charge. Though he is not allowed to require saluting, mass formation, or drill, there are ways for him to make himself obnoxious. But on the whole the disciplinary problem has been admirably handled, to the great credit of the army and the reserve officers. The army gave its pledge to the President that the camps should not be militarized and they have not been. But there is no reason why equally good discipline should not be possible under equally capable men unconnected with the army. If left to itself the CCC probably would give appointments to many of the present camp commanders who have demonstrated their personal fitness for the work.
6. From the army standpoint, then, the two arguments do not come to much. The army can administer economically--this must be granted--but the savings would not be considerable. It has maintained effective discipline--which also must be conceded--but where the discipline has been good it has been non-military, a poor reason for continuing it as an army feature. So the advantage of keeping the army in the CCC boils down to the very slight savings presumably possible under army administration.
7. Against this can be set the folly of giving the army permanent control over 200,000 civilians of military age. Some army officers may be eager for this control, recognizing it as an easy method of obtaining army recruits. Others with longer vision may see the CCC as a potential army reserve. What if the country has not wanted a semi-civilian army reserve, with the militarization it implies? Here is a way to get it by round-about. These elements are nothing like a majority in the army, and fortunately they are not a dominating minority. The real army leaders, it can be said on excellent authority, do not care to keep control over the

- CCC, will be relieved to get out of it; they feel that they have done an emergency job well, that they deserve credit for it, and that the emergency ends when the CCC is made permanent. If the camps want to have the advantage of the army's central purchasing system and commissariat, then army discipline would also have to be retained, for the army's prestige is involved; it isn't going to stay on as cook and tailor, and relinquish discipline to civilians, as though it had fallen down on that part of the job.
8. The army as a whole, then, can be expected to get out of the CCC gracefully, even gratefully. There is a movement to make one well-known corps commander head of the new permanent organization. This, however, is not backed in high quarters, and would only have the support of persons who would like to see the CCC developed as a militarized youth movement, along semi-fascist lines. However, it is for such personal ambitions that the public must watch out if the CCC is not assured a strictly non-military future.
  9. The second fundamental issue to be decided is the purpose of the CCC as a permanent government agency. So far it has been a happy accident, a relief project with a wide ramification of benefits and no ill effects. It has brought town and city boys into the forests, it has built up their undernourished bodies and strengthened their characters, it has provided cash for their parents. Also it has made a great deal of urgent conservation work possible. In a permanent CCC one plan under consideration is not to confine the camps to young men whose families are on relief. If this is carried out, the first purpose of the camps will cease to be relief. It then can be conservation. And if it becomes conservation, there can be no question who should have full responsibility for it. It would belong to the Forestry Service. The camps could continue to work untold benefits for the young men who lived in them, and in a large number of cases needy families could continue to draw financial benefits. But the camps themselves would have one primary purpose, to develop and protect the natural resources of the country. If 200,000 young men pass through the camps every two years, in ten years a million young men would be educated conservationists, and in a few decades we should have a nation which for the first time was conservation-wise. That would mean that the American people at last had grown out of the piratical economy by which they spread over the continent.
  10. The Forestry Service has the right spirit to head a permanent CCC. Its personnel is about as non-political as any that a modern democracy can produce, and its men work on ludicrously low salaries with the greatest zeal. They are imbued with the religion of conservation. No better esprit de corps is to be found and no more honest or capable administration. So if the CCC is to be dedicated to conservation, the Forestry Service is eminently fitted to govern and guide it. Under the current doctrine that things federal must be handled through state units, there might be some delay in certain districts in creating suitable subordinate state forest services. But the foresters are able to take over the entire work as soon as Congress can give it to them.
  11. To reduce the cost of the CCC, the amount of relief now paid probably will have to be reduced, and the existing relief basis may be radically changed. At present each camp worker receives \$30 a month in cash, after his board, lodging, and

- clothing have been provided. He keeps \$5 for himself; the remaining \$25 is paid to his family. This makes each camp cost \$6,000 a month in cash, and probably another \$8,000 in upkeep and administration. The latter items cannot be much reduced. But Congress may be asked to cut the relief cost by half, every camper to receive \$15 a month, and to dispose of the whole sum himself. With this change may also come new eligibility rules, and the camps may be opened to young men whether their families are on relief or not. In this event the CCC camps will become similar to the labor camps of Germany, which make a deliberate effort to bring about a mingling of classes on a footing of equality. And in America a good many upper- and middle-class families with unemployed sons on their hands will urge them to go into the CCC.
12. If there is a good side to this, there also is a danger that the camps will be asked to absorb a large number of grown-up problem children. Hardly a camp exists which has not been bedeviled by parents whose sons "need the discipline of camp supervision and the healthy outdoor life." These young men have been refused because their parents were not on relief. If too large a group of youngsters of this kind comes into the camps, heaven alone can help the Forest Service, or whoever has the responsibility. The idea that young men can be made over in short order may have been fondly entertained at the beginning of the CCC, but it certainly has been modified. Nearly all the campers have improved under the humane treatment, excellent food, and regular hours of this life. The average gain in weight in some camps runs as high as eight to ten pounds. But city boys from slum streets with slum standards have not been transformed into perfect citizens. I know of a camp where the New York boys quite naturally set up their own gangs. One fellow established a dice monopoly, and maintained it by strong-arm methods. Most of the boys of this camp went to New York on their week-end leaves. A group with relations at home operating motor trucks established a weekly service at low rates. Another group tried to bring in another set of relations to cut in on the business. The second group was warned there would be war, but the competing truck duly arrived. It was met, captured, and now lies at the bottom of a nearby lake. Gangster "civilization" is not to be rooted out by a few months of work in the woods.
  13. In a permanent CCC the present somewhat extemporized system of education will need overhauling. I visited a camp where the education officer had as his room a stuffy little space filled with cast-off school desks. Nothing could have been more forbidding to young men than the mere appearance of that room. Only a supervisor with rare personal attractiveness and tact could hope to interest his young men there, and the teacher ruefully admitted his real chance came in winter when it was too cold for outdoor sport. Perhaps the word "education" will have to be dropped altogether. Someone should be there to give guidance in the wise use of free time since camp life is divided into three parts, eight hours a day for work, eight for sleep, and eight for leisure. But vocational training with an immediate economic objective must rank first if the camps are to succeed in fitting young men to find jobs. In many camps this already is the focus. In a permanent system the opportunity to expand in this direction is almost limitless. But the greatest objective is not education, it is not relief, it is conservation. And a permanent

CCC would be the finest practical university of elemental social economy ever established in this country.

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Document # 14 This document was from the director, of the CCC, Robert Fechner. Fechner speaks about his hopes for the future of the CCC. It is very informative about the CCC. He points out how he will continue to help the youth of American, continue to become self-reliant.

### **American Forests** **MY HOPES FOR THE CCC**

Robert Fechner  
Director, The Civilian Conservation Corps

1. FOR five and a half years, a Legion of Youth, the Civilian Conservation Corps, has been charting a new conservation course for Uncle Sam, a course that provides for the gradual upbuilding of our natural resources of timber and soil. As a result, the nation is moving toward an admittedly distant goal of a balanced natural resources budget.
2. Under the competent supervision of trained foresters and technicians of federal and state departments and agencies dealing with conservation matters, some two million young men, together with a sprinkling of war veterans and Indians, have been laboring since the spring of 1933 on a wide variety of conservation projects. They have planted new forests on unproductive lands, strengthened forest and park protection systems to reduce forest devastation by forest fires, insects and disease, built new recreational facilities to improve the civic usefulness of our parks and forests and initiated and advanced a huge scale program for demonstrating practical erosion control measures to farmers.
3. Altogether, some 4,500 CCC camps of 200 men each have been established in national, state and private forests, on the public domain and on wildlife refuges in various parts of the country. At the present time more than 1,500 camps, including those on Indian reservations and in Alaska, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Hawaii, are in operation. Out of these camps each day go some 300,000 enrollees to plant trees, build truck trails, erect fire detection towers, lay telephone lines, improve grazing conditions in national forests and on the public domain, rehabilitate reclamation projects in the west and drainage ditches on farm lands,

- build check dams and plant quick growing trees and vegetation to protect private farm lands from soil wastage, to conserve water and prevent floods, to conduct campaigns against the white pine blister rust, the gypsy moth, bark beetles and rodents, to improve living conditions for wildlife and to do a host of other jobs related in a greater or lesser degree to the national task of conserving and rebuilding America's natural resources wealth.
4. The records in my office indicate that the 2,300,000 enrollees who have left their homes to work for from a few months to two years in the healthful outdoor atmosphere of the CCC camps have labored on some 150 different types of work. Operating under regulations and policies initiated or approved by the office of the director, the War Department has enrolled the men after they had been selected by the Department of Labor and the Veterans' Administration, constructed the camps, transported the men to and from projects, paid enrollees, clothed and fed them and looked after their welfare. The cost of maintaining a boy in a CCC camp this year, with all costs charged against the enrollee, is about \$1,000. Next year it will be a little larger, as new camps will have to be built. Altogether about two billion dollars has been expended on the CCC program, about twenty-three per cent going home to the parents of enrollees in the form of relief.
  5. No attempt has been made to turn the camps into formal schools. We do everything we can to fit enrollees for a useful life but the CCC is a work centered organization and not a substitute for high schools and colleges. It is, however, a practical school where young men in their teens and early twenties are taught how to work, how to live and how to get ahead. In the camps enrollees learn the fundamentals of good citizenship while acquiring work experience and practical skills. One of the fundamentals of the CCC program is that enrollees put in a full five day, forty hour week whenever climatic conditions permit. This is done in the belief that the work discipline and training acquired by enrollees on the job and through the normal routine of orderly camp living represents the best training and preparation for useful citizenship that we can offer. Every effort is made to improve the physical condition of enrollees so that they will leave the camp with sound physiques. Good food, medical care, comfortable clothing and instruction in sanitation and personal hygiene are furnished all enrollees.
  6. In camp enrollees follow a daily regime which includes regular hours for sleeping, eating, working, recreation, as well as a reasonable time for study and personal advancement. Academic courses and vocational training in a more limited degree are provided in all camps. Illiterates are taught to read and write. Backward enrollees are grounded in the three "r's."
  7. So much for the broad outline of the CCC program to date. It is my opinion that sufficient time has now elapsed for the average citizen to pass judgment upon the usefulness of the Corps, both as a force for conserving our natural resources and as a builder of vigorous young manhood.
  8. As director of the Corps, I have watched it grow from an experimental question mark into a sound, well-knit operating organization which takes pride in the fact that it gives the taxpayer a full return for every cent spent. There is no doubt but that the four cooperating departments--War, Interior, Agriculture and Labor--have done a splendid job.

9. But notwithstanding the fact that the Corps has been and continues to be popular with the general public, the question arises as to whether steps cannot be taken which will improve our work output and the service rendered youth and the nation. Some students of the CCC program have suggested that more time be devoted to enrollee education and training. Some have felt that the Corps costs too much. The question also has arisen as to whether the Corps was not departing too much from its original work objectives.
10. Before discussing possible changes in future work programs, I want to go on record as stating that in my opinion no phase of the CCC program is more important than our relationship with youth. I am hopeful that as time passes we can do even more than we are doing today to assist youth to become self-supporting. I am not a believer in coddling youngsters and so long as I am director I intend to do everything I can to help young men develop self-reliance and pride in their ability to make their own way in the world. I want enrollees to have every possible educational and training opportunity that can be given them without sacrificing the CCC work program. I have never been in favor of shortening the work week of forty hours to provide additional time for schooling, as I believe young men obtaining their first work experience should learn at the beginning that they must do an honest day's work and do it every day when they are employed if they are to be worth their salt. I take genuine pride in the fact that employers uniformly report that former enrollees have the right attitude toward work.
11. We have been making a thorough study of the CCC educational system this last year. We are improving the education and training set-up from the top down, developing improved training and instructional courses, closely scrutinizing the results being obtained and developing a system which will make certain that education and training facilities in each camp are used to the utmost. I am hopeful that at the end of this year I can report that each enrollee received ten hours of general and vocational instruction each week.
12. Our records show we have spent about two billion dollars on the CCC. Although I do not consider CCC costs have been high when viewed in the light of the Corps' accomplishments, pressure is being exerted at every point to reduce CCC expenditures. I hope it will be possible through consolidation of motor repair units, the operation of salvage and reclamation depots similar to the one operated by the Army at Columbus, Ohio, and a general tightening up of the CCC administrative and operating machine, to reduce costs still lower. A reduction in enrollee turnover between enrollment periods, except when men leave to accept employment, would help. In this connection it is interesting to know that some 450,000 enrollees have left to accept jobs prior to completing their terms of enrollment.
13. On one point, however, the CCC cannot afford to economize too far. I refer to the expenditure of funds for careful supervision and guidance of camp work projects. The fact that all CCC work has been carefully supervised has added to CCC costs, but it has been worth it. The Corps seeks to give enrollees the best possible leadership and the best technical direction. High class, experienced reserve officers in charge of camps mean better leadership for the enrollees, better camp morale, better food, fewer desertions and disciplinary discharges and a better all

- around camp atmosphere. Carefully trained and experienced project superintendents and foremen mean carefully planned work programs, a higher work output and better trained enrollees. Seasoned and able camp educational advisers mean that camp educational programs will be simple and practical and well organized.
14. The CCC's health program has been outstandingly successful. Without exception, Corps area commanding officers have acted vigorously to safeguard the health of enrollees and build them up physically. In some Corps areas, physical training has been made a regular rather than an optional feature of daily camp life. While undoubtedly enrollees get plenty of exercise, the physical drills have been helpful in improving posture and in developing coordination of mind and muscle. Perhaps it would be a good thing if physical training were provided in all camps.
  15. Adoption of a first class distinctive uniform which enrollees could wear when not at work would be a good thing for the Corps. It would undoubtedly build up morale and improve the appearance of the enrollees. I hope it will be possible to give the CCC a uniform before a not too distant date.
  16. Before expressing my hopes for the future in the field of conservation, let me present a few figures on work accomplishments. Our records compiled from camp figures by the Bureau of the Census show that the national reforestation program has been advanced by the planting of more than 1,501,662,800 forest tree seedlings on 1,501,663 acres of bare, barren or unproductive land; by improving forest stands on 3,115,534 acres and by campaigns against tree diseases, such as the white pine blister rust, and tree-attacking insects on 17,279,975 acres.
  17. Forest fire protection systems have been strengthened in public forests and parks and adjacent areas by the construction of 98,444 miles of truck trails and minor roads, the building of 66,161 miles of telephone lines, reduction of fire hazards along 65,576 miles of roads and trails, the erection of more than 3,459 fire lookout houses and towers, and the construction of 41,303 bridges and 45,350 buildings of various types.
  18. The presence of enrollees in the forests has furnished the nation a first class forest fire-fighting patrol during fire seasons with the result that millions of acres of forest and park land have been saved from fire damage. Civilian Conservation Corps enrollees have expended 7,930,912 man-days on forest fire-fighting duty or on fire prevention or fire pre-suppression work.
  19. It has furnished men and material for the initiation and advancement of a nationwide erosion control program. Since the spring of 1934 the Corps has constructed 4,132,660 check dams and planted 175,886,495 quick-growing type trees on eroded farm areas.
  20. It has opened up recreational opportunities in the nation's forests and parks for millions by stimulating new state park development projects, by improving and developing recreational facilities in national and state parks, and in other areas.
  21. It has aroused national interest in wildlife conservation by furnishing men and funds for acquisition and development of a chain of wildlife refuges, by improving conditions for fishing and by stimulating federal and state agencies to greater wildlife conservation activity. In this connection, the CCC has built 4,105 fish-rearing pools, expanded national and state fish hatchery facilities, improved

- more than 6,207 miles of streams, stocked lakes, ponds and streams with 636,447,728 fingerlings and young fish and conducted rodent control operations over 30,774,049 acres.
22. In reviewing the past five years of the Corps, and looking into its future, it is well to recall its original purpose and scope. The original CCC Act of March 31, 1933, sets up pretty clearly the two main purposes of the Corps, unemployment relief and "restoration of the country's depleted natural resources." Later wording amplifies the first statement and refers to "forestation" of federal and state "lands suitable for timber production, protection or prevention of forest fires, floods and soil erosion, insect and fungous attacks, and the construction, maintenance and repair of paths, trails and fire lanes within national forests and parks."
  23. The Act of June 28, 1937, sets up three objectives of great importance--to provide employment, to provide vocational training and to perform "useful public work in connection with the conservation and development of the natural resources of the United States."
  24. First, let me emphasize that the providing of jobs for unemployed youth is equally but no more important than the doing of needed conservation work. Secondly, that the two CCC Acts both emphasize that the work program is to be conservation of natural resources.
  25. But back of these Congressional Acts, before even the original Act was passed on March 31, 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt expressed himself very clearly on what he had in mind as to the CCC, its purpose, scope and work. In his message of March 21, 1933, to the Congress, he said in part:
  26. "I propose to create a civilian conservation corps to be used in simple work, not interfering with normal employment, and confining itself to forestry, the prevention of soil erosion, flood control and similar projects."
  27. Since the first camps were established on national forests and national parks, we have departed in some measure from that original program of objectives-- "forestry, the prevention of soil erosion, flood control and similar projects." In addition to forestation and erosion work, the Corps has done a vast amount of recreational work. It has developed parks in states, counties, municipalities and other areas set aside by federal or local agencies for recreational use. It is not too much to say that the CCC put the now flourishing state park system on its feet.
  28. But has it done enough of tree planting? Has it concentrated enough on work which will conserve water and soil and prevent floods? Have enough men been assigned to blister rust control and on campaigns to reduce damages caused by insects such as the bark beetle? I believe that the work we have done to develop our national parks and state parks and related areas has been more than justified by the avenues of outdoor enjoyment which we have made available to the public and that we should continue our recreational work on a scale commensurate with public need. At the same time, I think the time has come when it would be well to give consideration to the placing of even greater emphasis than we have in the past upon the planting of trees and other reforestation work, the control of erosion, upstream engineering and the protection and improvement of national parks and monuments.

29. Projects for which adult unemployed labor is available or for which adult labor is better suited normally should not be done with CCC labor. This means that the use of the CCC in or near towns or cities, or on large engineering structures where either the adult unemployed or contract labor can be properly used, should not ordinarily be undertaken by the Corps. The CCC is a young, unskilled, mobile force which can be employed to advantage in regions remote from cities or labor centers. There have been complaints on the ground that the CCC youths have deprived locally available adult labor of jobs in different parts of the country. Greater care should be taken to avoid approval of projects requiring a large amount of annual maintenance to keep them usable. In this connection, state and local organizations should refrain from recommending work projects which they are unprepared to maintain in a usable condition after the CCC camp completes its work.
30. Before listing some of the types of conservation work which I believe should be stressed in the future, I venture the hope that both federal and state conservation organizations will concentrate on the working out of long-range programs for the conservation and use of natural resource wealth so that the CCC work programs can be maintained at their present high standard. I hope that state and federal officials will work out comprehensive programs for development work in each state so that every bit of work done by the CCC will be of maximum value to the state and to the general public. I would like to see a national program, with major types of project shown, covering conservation work that should be done over the next five or ten years. If such a master plan is available, I have not seen it. In my own opinion, major types of work upon which the CCC should concentrate, are:
  31. (1) Forest Protection. Forests in federal, state and private ownership and federal and state parks must continue to be protected from fire, insects and fungi.
  32. (2) Reforestation. There are some 138 millions of acres of barren, denuded, abandoned forest and sub-marginal lands in this country. These should be made productive by growing forests, whether in national park or forest or in state forest or park. The CCC has not done enough tree planting. A program calling for the planting each year of 500,000,000 trees would not be too ambitious.
  33. (3) Flood Control. The "upstream engineering" part of the national flood control job entrusted to Army engineers and the Department of Agriculture by Congress under the Flood Control Act of 1936 is admirably suited for the CCC to perform. This work is not suited for contract labor, as it consists of many small jobs and is in remote or isolated locations where the Corps can function to good advantage. The CCC should be definitely in this program.
  34. (4) Soil Conservation. The saving of our fertile soils and the building up of depleted soils are basic to our future as a nation wherever these lands lie. Here is a splendid job for the Corps to continue.
  35. (5) Development of Recreation Resources. The population of the country is growing and public appreciation of outdoor recreational facilities is mounting. I feel this work should be continued where needed. As public use and enjoyment of our wooded areas increases, public interest in our conservation stake will rise.
  36. (6) Wildlife Restoration. Many years of restoration work yet remains to be done on federal forests and parks and in federal and state game refuges and sanctuaries.

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Document #15 This document explains why the CCC was terminated.

### **THE WAR YEARS AND THE CONCLUSION OF THE CCC**

The Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and the entry of the United States into World War II brought further dramatic changes to the CCC program in the National Park Service. With the declaration of war, the Park Service terminated all CCC projects that did not directly relate to the war effort, leaving only 89 NPS camps operating by the end of December. Fifty of these camps were assigned to military and naval areas, 20 were in national parks and monuments, 10 were in recreational demonstration areas, and 9 were in state park areas.

On December 24, 1941, the Joint Appropriations Committee of Congress, considering the appropriations bill of 1941-1942, recommended that the CCC be terminated no later than July 1, 1942. President Roosevelt conceded that the CCC could be abolished but argued that it should be maintained as it performed needed conservation work and served as a training program for pre-draft-age youth. Roosevelt urged members of Congress to continue the CCC in light of the essential war work that the enrollees were performing--building military training facilities, barracks, roads, and recreational facilities for military uses and fencing military reservations.

While Congress and the president debated the fate of the CCC, Director McEntee ordered that all existing CCC camps be closed as quickly as feasible unless they met one of two criteria--the camp was engaged in war work construction or in protection of war-related natural resources. Some camps in NPS areas specializing in forest fire protection work were permitted to continue under the second criterion. The effective date for application of this guideline was set for the end of May 1942. Within the National Park Service, Wirth gave further instructions to the regional directors on the termination of CCC camps. He recommended that any incomplete CCC jobs be finished as quickly as possible, using labor paid from other sources, and that any leftover material be transferred to other CCC projects in the area or be declared surplus and disposed of following regional instructions. The closing of those CCC camps that did not meet the criteria was facilitated by the fact that many of the young men and their supervisors were

taking jobs with defense industries or going into the military. Even in some of the remaining camps, it was not possible to keep a full complement of 200 men.

On May 4, 1942, President Roosevelt asked the House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations to appropriate \$49,101,000 to maintain 150 CCC camps from July 1, 1942, until June 30, 1943. The committee defied the president and voted 15 to 12 against funding the CCC beyond July 1. An attempt was made on June 5 on the floor of the House of Representatives to restore funding, but the House voted 158 to 151 not to appropriate further monies for the CCC. They did vote \$500,000 to cover the cost of terminating the program. At the end of June, a Senate and House conference committee agreed to provide an additional \$7.5 million to all agencies to cover the cost of terminating the CCC. This action was approved by both the House and Senate, thus forecasting the end of the CCC on July 2, 1942.

During the congressional debate over the CCC, the National Park Service began to prepare for closure of the camps. In May the NPS regional directors were instructed to prepare press releases to be placed in local papers describing the closing of local CCC camps and giving an explanation for the closures. In June Conrad Wirth still hoped that at least a small number of camps could be continued through the summer months to provide forest fire protection for parks, but this was not allowed. Prior to the end of June, the Hawaiian Islands CCC camps were transferred to military bases, while the Virgin Islands CCC camps were discontinued as defense work provided employment for the islands' young men.

As the CCC program was being terminated, maintenance work in the parks suffered dramatically. Trails and parking lots on the Blue Ridge Parkway and in Shenandoah National Park were gradually reclaimed by nature because the parks could not spare enough laborers to maintain them. The superintendent of Shenandoah was deeply concerned that the park could not be maintained after the termination of the CCC, as were officials at other parks such as Acadia National Park and Death Valley National Monument. These areas, prior to and since their establishment, had been dependent upon CCC labor to do work that in older parks had been allocated to regular park staff. The loss of the CCC meant that both old and new parks suffered from a loss of fire protection and maintenance staff.

The advisory council for the Civilian Conservation Corps met on July 1 to consider how to accomplish the CCC termination. It was decided that once the enrollees were transported back to their corps areas, the educational advisors, camp commander and his subordinates, doctors, and chaplains would be dismissed. The Park Service set up a single procurement number for the regions and camps to use during termination proceedings. All work projects were to be halted immediately, if possible, or no later than Saturday, July 14. The Army was to assist in moving the youths and equipment, and all equipment was to be placed in central warehouses and protected until the Park Service could make a determination as to the final disposition of the property. Only those employees required for termination could be retained; all others were to be dismissed. Those workers having less than a month's annual leave would be given two weeks' notice and the rest would be

given terminal leave. The final termination was scheduled to be completed no later than June 30, 1943.

The termination process varied from one park to another. For example, all CCC projects in Glacier National Park were halted on July 9, while the superintendent of Isle Royale National Park had received no official notice of the termination by July 10. By the end of July, however, all CCC camp operations in NPS areas had ceased. A number of park superintendents expressed their appreciation for the CCC work and regret concerning the program's termination. Both park superintendents and regional officials requested that the Washington Office ask for an increase in maintenance funds to make up for the loss of the CCC. Officials in Washington responded that the Park Service would be fortunate to keep the present maintenance funds and that there would be no additional funding. Instead, it was recommended to the parks that other activities be curtailed and the money saved used for maintenance. An attempt was made to obtain additional funding for park protection projects; this achieved only limited success.

The most difficult task proved to be the inventorying and disposition of camp equipment-office equipment, automobiles, trucks, construction equipment, barracks furnishings, library material, tools of all kinds, furniture, and the camp buildings. Once a full inventory was made, the items were to be transferred to the military for the war effort or, in descending priority, to the Park Service, other federal agencies, state, county, or municipal agencies, or nonprofit organizations devoted to the promotion of conservation, education, recreation, or health. The NPS policy on CCC camp buildings was that they were either to be used or torn down. Some of the camps, such as the one at Hopewell Village National Historic Site, were converted to rest and relaxation camps for British sailors, others to rest areas for American soldiers, sailors, and marines. CCC camps on the Blue Ridge Parkway and in Shenandoah National Park and Glacier National Park became Civilian Public Service camps in which conscientious objectors performed tasks that were similar to the CCC work. Other camp buildings were dismantled and moved to military reservations for use by the armed services. By June 30, 1943, the termination of the CCC was completed at a cost to the Park Service of \$8,347,256.

Toward the end of World War II there was public interest in reviving the CCC program, but Congress failed to act on any of the proposals submitted. Park Service officials requested the U.S. attorney general to rule on the reinstatement rights of former CCC employees returning from the war. NPS representatives had been contacted by these people who wanted to secure jobs within the parks or administrative centers. The attorney general ruled that the CCC was an emergency relief agency and the former employees had no reinstatement rights with the Park Service. After the war, on December 11, 1946, the Selective Service System transferred all former CCC property (which it had received from the Park Service in the first months of World War II) back to the Park Service for final disposition.

The following are periodical and newspaper articles from the National Parks Service for your use to better research information about the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Articles from the National Parks Service website:

[http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online\\_books/ccc/ccc1d.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/ccc/ccc1d.htm).

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The Civilian Conservation Corps and Public Recreation. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1941.

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Congressional Record. vol. 83, 1937.

Code of Federal Regulations. Title 3--The President, 1936-1943. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1968

Emergency Conservation Work. Annual Report of the Director of the Emergency Conservation Work Fiscal Year, Ending June 30, 1936. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1937.

\_\_\_\_\_. Report of the Director of the Emergency Conservation Work:  
for the Period April 5, 1933, to September 30, 1933 (1st report)  
for the Period April 5, 1933, to March 31, 1934 (2d report)  
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Washington: Government Printing Office, 1934.  
from the Period Extending From April 1933 to June 30, 1935  
Washington: Government Printing Office, 1935.

Emergency Conservation Work. Two Years of Emergency Conservation Work (Civilian Conservation Corps) April 5, 1933 - March 31, 1935, by Robert Fechner. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1935.

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\_\_\_\_\_. Annual Report of the Director of the Civilian Conservation Corps, Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 1941. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1942.

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Glimpses of National Parks. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1941.

Hearon, Fanning. Comp. Parks and Recreation Progress 1941 Yearbook. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1941.

Kieley, James F. The CCC. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1933.

National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. Administrative History: Expansion of the National Park Service in the 1930s, by Harlan D. Unrau and G. Frank Williss. Denver, 1983. On file at Denver Service Center.

\_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. Administrative History of Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, by Jerome A. Greene and John C. Paige. Denver, 1983. On file at Denver Service Center.

\_\_\_\_\_. \_\_\_\_\_. Civilian Conservation Corps Program of the Department of the Interior, March 1933 to June 30, 1943, by Conrad L. Wirth. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1944.

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U.S. Congress. Joint Committee on Banking and Currency. Hearings on Emergency Conservation and Relief Bill. Rept. 831, 72d Cong., 1st. sess., June 15, 1932.

U.S. Department of the Interior. Annual Report of the Secretary of the Interior for the Fiscal Years April 11, 1911 ending June 30, 1944. The original report actually says 1911; however, the authors of this report feel it is a typographical error which should read 1933.

\_\_\_\_\_. General Information Regarding the Department of the Interior, October 1, 1937. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1937.

\_\_\_\_\_. Handbook of Emergency Conservation Work. Washington: Department of the Interior, 1933.

\_\_\_\_\_. A Manual on Emergency Conservation Work, Civilian Conservation Corps. Washington: Government Printing Office, n. d.

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U.S. Department of Labor. Emergency Conservation Work Bulletin No. 1. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1933.

\_\_\_\_\_. Handbook for Agencies Selecting Men for Emergency Conservation Work. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1933.

\_\_\_\_\_. Monthly Labor Review. May 1935, April 1939, and June 1941.

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U.S. Department of War. Civilian Conservation Corps Regulations. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1937.

\_\_\_\_\_. War Department Regulations, Relief of Unemployment Civilian Conservation Corps. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1935.

U.S. House. Amending Act Establishing A Civilian Conservation Corps. Rept. 1836, 75th Cong., 3d sess., 1938.

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\_\_\_\_\_. Hearings on Making the Civilian Conservation Corps a Permanent Agency. Rept. 687, 75th Cong., 1st sess., 1937.

\_\_\_\_\_. Monthly Reports of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration May 22 to June 30, 1933. Doc. 239, 73d Cong., 2d sess., 1934.

\_\_\_\_\_. Proposed Provision Pertaining to an Existing Appropriation of the Civilian Conservation Corps. Doc. 208, 75th Cong., 1st sess., 1937.

\_\_\_\_\_. Proposed Provision Pertaining to an Existing Appropriation for the Civilian Conservation Corps. Doc. 461, 77th Cong., 1st sess., 1941.

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Caravati, Henry L. "Civilian Conservation Corps." Recreation 34(February 1941):650-651.

"Charge CCC Defrauded of \$1,250,000," New York Daily News, January 21, 1938.

Fenwick, Robert W. "The Civilian Conservation Corps; They Took to the Woods . . . and Came Out Men," Empire Magazine Newspaper clipping file; Western Historical Collections: University of Colorado, Boulder.

"Fewer Youth Props," Newsweek 18 (November 10, 1941):24.

Hendrickson, Kenneth E., Jr. "The Civilian Conservation Corps in South Dakota." South Dakota History 9(winter, 1980):1-20.

Humphreys, Hubert. "Origin of and Nature of the Experiment and Its Role in Conservation." Part 1 of "In a Sense Experimental: The Civilian Conservation Corps in Louisiana," Louisiana History 5(fall, 1964):345-367.

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The New York Times. 1933-1942.

Oxley, Howard W. "Recreation in the CCC Camps." School Life: Official Journal of the U.S. Office of Education. 26(February 1941):151-152.

Philadelphia Record. 1937. 1938.

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Washington Post. 1933. 1934. 1937. 1938.

### Annotated Bibliography

Avi. *Don't You know There's A War On?*. New York.: Scholastic, Inc , 2003.

Avi takes the reader back in time to Brooklyn, New York during World War II. The terminology and authentic examples the author, Avi uses are spectacular. Your students like mine will be on the edge of their seats in anticipation for the next scenario.

Beeson, D. R. *In The spirit of Adventure*. Seymour, Tennessee: Panther Press, 1994.

Beeson's 1914 Smoky Mountains hiking journal is a fantastic example of the environment that the CCC men worked in. Many of the areas that Beeson hiked are areas that the camps were in or near. This book is a great resource for students to read to rediscover the Smoky Mountains nearly a century ago.

Bernstein, Michael, A. *The Great Depression.*, New York: Cambridge Press, 1987.

This book is helpful to the reader because Bernstein focuses on issues that were prevalent during the depression. This depression motivated Roosevelt to create work and training through the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Cox, W. Eugene. *Great Smoky Mountains: The Story Behind The Scenery*. Las Vegas: KC Publications, 2003.

Cox's book shows young readers just how magnificent the Great Smoky Mountains were. It is helpful to this document reader, because, young children need visuals for better comprehension.

Erenberg, Lewis, A. Susan E. Hirsch. *The War in American Culture*. Chicago & London: University of Chicago Press, 1996.

Erenberg & Hirsch bring up valid points about the New Deal and America in the depression years. They write about rationing in America, which is a great example for your students, to read about for this unit, in that rationing is. There are a few pages on Franklin D Roosevelt, and the issues that he was dealing with during this time period.

Fechner, Robert. *My Hopes for the CCC*. Washington, D.C.: The American Forestry Association, 1939. [www.newdeal.feri.org](http://www.newdeal.feri.org)

Fechner was the director of the CCC. Fechner speaks about his hopes for the future of the CCC. It is very informative about the CCC. He points out how he will continue to help the youth of American, continue to become self-reliant.

Holt, Bill. Interview of his Father, James Anderson Holt. Shannon Holt, 2005.

My father, Bill Holt informed me while interviewing my Mother for this document reader that my Paternal Grandfather, James Anderson Holt, had worked for the CCC camp in Tellico, where I live. Until this interview, I was not aware of this information. The camp was located at the present Tellico Ranger Offices.

Holt, Jeannette. Interview of her Father, Clarence Claude Murphy. Shannon Holt, 2005.

My maternal Grandfather was from Coker Creek, he went in the late 30's to work and train with the CCC camp in the Sugarlands community, near Gatlinburg, Tennessee. There he met and married my Granny, Maggie May Parton. She was a local, whose family was removed from the Sugarlands community. She has family members buried in the Sugarlands cemetery. Later on my Granny got to present Eleanor Roosevelt with material from her families, loom textile company. She made this presentation when The Roosevelt's came to the dedication ceremony of the Smoky Mountains National Park in 1940.

Jolley, Harley E. *The CCC, In the Smokies*. U.S.A.: Donihe Graphics, Inc , 2001.

Jolley does an excellent job in introducing the reader to the CCC. He created a fantastic pamphlet to convey what the CCC did. It has great pictures and stories about life in the CCC camps. As well as giving the daily schedule and enrollee qualifications to join the CCC program.

National Parks Service Website.

[http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online\\_books/ccc/ccc1d.htm](http://www.cr.nps.gov/history/online_books/ccc/ccc1d.htm)

This website has many articles and resources about the Civilian Conservation Corps. This articles and resources would be extremely helpful for further research about the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Roosevelt, Franklin D. *Greetings to the Civilian Conservation Corp* : Reprinted in *The Public Papers and Addresses of Franklin D. Roosevelt*, Vol. 2, 1933. New York City: Random House, 1938. [www.newdeal.feri.org](http://www.newdeal.feri.org)

Roosevelt writes optimistically and truly shows his concern for the future of these young men willing to take on the challenge of joining the CCC. It shows his enthusiasm for the CCC program, as well as his support.

Swing, Raymond Gram. *Take the Army Out of the CCC*. New York: The Nation, 1935.  
[www.newdeal.feri.org](http://www.newdeal.feri.org)

Swing discusses various reasons why he feels that the Army should be removed from the CCC. He states: "The CCC has become the bright jewel of the New Deal" Swing brings up a couple of reasons why the Army has helped the CCC, for example economically and through discipline, but overall, he feels they would not make a considerable difference. Leaving leadership to the Forestry Service to head and maintain the CCC seems to be Swings idea.

Van West, Carroll. *Tennessee's New Deal Landscape*. Knoxville: The University of Tennessee Press, 2001.

Van West's book gives the reader a vivid look into the Smoky Mountains National Park. He tells how the park came to be built through the wonderful help of men like my Grandfathers, in the CCC. He writes how 70,000 Tennesseans served in the CCC by its end, in 1942. His book is very informative in researching the CCC.

### Part III

**Lesson Plan :** # one

**Unit:** Civilian Conservation Corps

**Lesson Title:** Waste not Want not.

**Grade Level:** Fourth & Fifth

**Essential Question related to Vital Theme:** What is rationing? What is supply and demand?

**Lesson Time:** two forty five minutes sessions

**Curriculum Standards—list:**

4.2.spi.1. recognize the concept for supply and demand.

5.5spi.5. interpret a visual contrasting life before and after World War II. (i.e. education, family, size, transportation, urbanization, and the role of women).

**Objective:** The students will be read to from the book *World War II for Kids*, as well as an excerpt from the book by author AVI, “Don’t you know there is a War going On?”. Then they will do a K-W-L on the board about World War II, defining the word ration. Afterwards they will research information on the internet at [www.ask.com](http://www.ask.com) about rationing in the 1930’s and during the World War II. Students will read an excerpt from the book *The War in America*, to show examples of rationing. They will team up with a partner to research 10 facts about rationing about supply and demand. They will be asked to collect aluminum cans to help the war effort for a week to understand that every little bit adds up. Each can will be worth 5 cents. At the end of the week the students will add up how much money they have raised for the war effort from their cans, integrating Mathematics into the lesson. Then the students will do another K-W-L, Venn diagram, to check for retention and improvement. To lead into the next lesson we will discuss the National Parks of America.

**Materials:** Paper, pencil. [www.ack.com](http://www.ack.com), book by Avi, “Don’t you Know There Is A War Going On?” and the book by Richard Panchyk, called *World War II for Kids*. Dry erase board and markers. The book by Erenberg, Lewis, A. Susan E. Hirsch. *The War in American Culture*.

**Lesson Plan:** # two

**Unit:** Civilian Conservation Corps

**Lesson Title:** What is the “CCC”?

**Grade Level:** Fourth & Fifth

**Essential Question related to Vital Theme:** Students will be introduced to the Civilian Conservation Corps, created by President Roosevelt.

**Lesson Time:** three forty five minute sessions

**Curriculum Standards—list:** 5.2. spi.1. differentiate between needs and wants on a personal and national level.

5.2.spi.2 differentiate between an economic boom or bust.

**Objective:** Students will research the Civilian Conservation Corps, from reading excerpts from the book by Carroll Van West, *Tennessee’s New Deal Landscape*. Students will learn what it is and who created it. Looking at primary sources about the “CCC”. Students will be shown cartoons depicted from CCC camps and compare them to War time posters. Then the students will create a war time poster promoting one of the wartime activities, for example, “Buy War Bonds for Bombs”, or “Loose Lips Sink Ships”. Students will be shown examples of World War II posters from the book by AVI, “Don’t you know there is a war going on?”.

**Materials:** [www.ask.com](http://www.ask.com), paper, poster board and pencil. Dry erase board and markers. Smoky Mountain pamphlet on the CCC. The book by AVI, “Don’t you know there is a war going on?”. The book by Van West, Carroll. *Tennessee’s New Deal Landscape*.

**Lesson Plan:** # three

**Unit:** Civilian Conservation Corps

**Lesson Title:** War Posters

**Grade Level:** Fourth & Fifth

**Essential Question related to Vital Theme:** How did War time posters and cartoons play a part in the CCC and World War II?

**Lesson Time:** two forty five minute sessions

**Curriculum Standards—list:** 5.2. spi.1. differentiate between needs and wants on a personal and national level.

**Objective:** The students will create a war time poster promoting one of the wartime activities, or a cartoon promoting life at the CCC camps. For example, “Buy War Bonds for Bombs”, or “Loose Lips Sink Ships”, Or A cartoon of a CCC enrollee cutting wood, to clear a trail. Students will be shown examples of World War II posters from the book by AVI, “Don’t you know there is a war going on?”. Students will be shown examples of cartoons from Harley E Jolley’s book, *The CCC, In the Smokies*.

**Materials:** [www.ask.com](http://www.ask.com), paper, poster board and pencil. Dry erase board and markers. Smoky Mountain pamphlet on the CCC, *The CCC, In the Smokies* by Harley E. Jolley. The book by AVI, “Don’t you know there is a war going on?”.