

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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ELECTIONS  
APR. - JUNE 1944

Declassified E.O. 12356 Section 3.3/NND No. 785016

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30 June 44.

SUBJECT : Parliamentary Registration.

TO : Education Sub-Commission.

With reference to your enquiry as to proxies for University Elections. It has now been ascertained that proxies may be appointed. Persons entitled to a University vote may obtain and complete a second card See paras 21/25 of the attached instructions.

S.R. WHITE, Deant Colonel,  
SO I Admin Section.

4 copies  
Hills  
8700

ADMIN SEC 6789  
Notified in A.C. Is. 1st April, 1944  
**PARLIAMENTARY REGISTRATION**

**The Armed Forces Declaration Card**

(Army Form B2626, S1300B, R.A.F. Form 2040)

*By Command of the Army Council,*

*L. D. Darnley.*

THE WAR OFFICE,  
1st April, 1944.

**PARLIAMENTARY REGISTRATION**

**The Armed Forces Declaration Card**

(Army Form B2626, S1300B, R.A.F. Form 2040)

Every person who wishes to be included in the new Register of voters must make a declaration, whether previously registered or not.

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1. Section 10 of the Parliament (Elections and Meeting) Act, 1943, provides that every person appearing to be qualified to make a service declaration shall receive all reasonable instructions and assistance in the making of that declaration. It is accordingly desirable that these cards shall be filled up under the supervision of a commissioned officer, and the following instructions are issued for general guidance. The declaration must be attested by a commissioned officer other than the declarant.

2. Parts 1 and 3, and, if it is desired to appoint a proxy, Part 2 of the card are to be filled up. Nothing will be written on Part 4. All entries should be made in ink.

### Part 1.

3. The space marked "Service" will be completed by inserting "R.N.", "Army," "R.A.F.", "W.R.N.S.", "A.T.S.", or "W.A.A.F.", as the case may be. Nursing Services will be included under the name of the Service (*i.e.*, R.N., Army or R.A.F.), with which they are serving. V.A.D. members employed under the Army Council will put "V.A.D. (Army)."

4. "Service No." includes the personal number, if any, of officers.

5. The date of birth should be inserted only in the case of persons who are under 21 years of age at the time of filling up the card. In all other cases the declarant should state only that he is 21 years of age or over.

Those under 21 years of age will be placed on the register when they attain that age.

6. A declarant is required to state the address at which he resides or, but for his service, would reside. This means that a declarant should as a rule give his home address; but if owing to special circumstances he is not in a position to give his home address it will be open to him to give an address at which he would be likely to be residing if he were not in the Forces, *e.g.*, the address of a relative or friend.

7. The FULL postal address of the HOUSE must be inserted. It will not be possible to register a person who gives only the name of a town or district.

8. Before an attesting officer signs a declaration he is required to satisfy himself that all particulars of identity which can be known to him are accurate, *e.g.*, he should check from the pay book or other official document that the declarant's number and his rank or rating are correct. Since an alien cannot vote, an attesting officer should not attest the declaration of a person whom he *knows* to be an alien, *i.e.*, a person who does not possess British nationality either alone or with any other nationality.

9. An attesting officer if in the Royal Navy will state his ship, if in the Army he will state his regiment or corps, but *not* his unit, and if in the Royal Air Force he will state his unit.

10. A declaration may be cancelled at any time by means of a fresh Armed Forces declaration card (A.F. B2626, S1300B, R.A.F. Form 2040) declaring to another address.

### Part 2.

11. This part must be filled in by any declarant who desires to appoint a proxy, *i.e.*, a person who will be given a ballot paper in order that he or she may vote on behalf of the person making the appointment. A fresh appointment must be made each time the declarant makes a new declaration, because an appointment made



with an earlier declaration expires when that declaration is cancelled. A ballot paper can only be sent to an address in the United Kingdom and therefore a voter abroad cannot vote unless he has appointed a proxy.

12. If a person who has already been appointed proxy dies or becomes unable to act, another proxy may be appointed. For this purpose a fresh Armed Forces declaration card (A.F. B2626, S1300B, R.A.F. Form 2040) should be used, omitting the information as to age and postal address, and deleting the words "I hereby cancel any previous declaration made by me."

13. A proxy must be a British subject of 21 years of age or over.

14. Generally a person can only hold two proxy appointments. This limit does not apply if the person appointed is the father, mother, husband, wife, brother, sister, grandfather or grandmother of the person making the appointment. The relationship of the person appointed as proxy should be stated if it is one of the above. If not, put "none."

15. It is not essential that the declarant should name a person as second choice. It is however advisable for him to do so in case the person whom he selects as his first choice already holds for other people as many proxies as he is by law allowed to hold.

### Part 3.

16. The address on Part 3 must be inserted by the officer who is supervising the filling in of the card. Normally what is needed is the last two lines of the full postal address set out in Part 1, e.g., "Crewe, Cheshire," "Tenby, Pembrokeshire," or "Larne, Co. Antrim," but all cards bearing a *Scottish* residential address, should bear *only* the word "Edinburgh" instead of a "Post Town" and "County" address.

Some towns obviously need no "County," e.g., Derby, Cambridge, etc. In these cases only the name of the town need be given. In the case of London and some other large towns, only the name of the town followed by the district numbers and/or initials is required, e.g., London, S.W.1, Birmingham, 15.

### General.

17. When cards have been completed they should be folded firmly along the perforated line, Parts 1 and 3 being outside, and transmitted through the normal postal channels.

### Mode of voting at home.

18. Persons on the Service Register who will be in the United Kingdom at the time of an election and who desire to vote by post at an election in the constituency will complete A.F. B2628, S1300C, R.A.F. Form 2574, which may be obtained from the unit orderly room or equivalent office; or in the case of personnel on leave or otherwise detached from their units, from electoral registration

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officers ; and forward it to the appropriate electoral registration officer in order that he may be notified of the address to which ballot papers are to be sent. The submission of this form will automatically cancel the appointment of any proxy as respects that particular election.

19. Persons on the Service Register who have not sent in A.F. B2628, S1300C, R.A.F. Form 2574, may vote in person, but where a proxy has been appointed, only if the proxy has not already voted. The appointment of the proxy is then cancelled as respects that particular election.

20. In no circumstances will any special leave be granted solely for the purpose of voting in person.

#### **Appointment of proxies by Service voters at University elections.**

21. The Act provides that a member of the Forces who is entitled to vote at a University election may use Part 2 of the Armed Forces declaration card to appoint a proxy to vote for him at that election. Accordingly any person who states that he is a University elector and who desires to appoint a proxy for a University election should be issued with a second card for this purpose. In such cases the card will be completed as follows :—

22. Part 1 will be completed in the same manner as if the declarant were making a service declaration, except that instead of his full postal address he will insert the University constituency in which he is entitled to vote.

23. Part 2 will be completed without any variation.

24. Part 3 will be completed by the declarant, who will insert the name and postal address of the University for which he claims to be entitled to vote.

25. On completion, the declarant will transmit the card through the normal postal channels.



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*Notified in A.C.Is. 1st April, 1944.*

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