## HAYDEN C. COVINGTON 124 COLUMBIA HEIGHTS BROOKLYN 1, N. Y.

January 15, 1954

MAIN 5-1240

Richard M. Rawe Box 1576 Grand Coulee, Washington

Dear Brother Rawe:

Thank you very much for your letter of January 12, 1954, informing me as to your present draft status.

Since the local board reopened and reconsidered your classification you should have requested a personal appearance in the usual way. In your letter you say that the classification card was mailed January 7, 1954. Therefore the request should have been filed within ten days. However, since you have filed the notice of appeal your file will be sent to the appeal board and in turn reviewed and referred to the Department of Justice for an appropriate investigation and hearing and recommendation as to your conscientious objections to participation in war.

Did you prepare a written summary of the personal appearance? This suggestion is found on page 17 of the Booklet "Procedure for Jehovah's Witnesses under Selective Service." Since December 18, 1952, it has been the responsibility of the registrant to prepare the written summary of the oral evidence presented at the personal appearance. I make mention of this because of the summary prepared by the clerk of the oral information presented to the local board on December 1, 1953. Actually, according to the law, you were not afforded a personal appearance at that time, since such appearance must follow a reopening of a classification, not just preceding the reopening.

However, if the information in the summary by the clerk is correct then and it was a personal appearance, you should have prepared a written summary of the oral evidence and outlined all the information that you presented which would support Richard M. Rawe January 15, 1954: Page 2

the ministerial position that you are claiming and which has not been stated elsewhere in your file. Such information is always prepared for the benefit of the appeal board when considering the registrant's classification. Otherwise he is denied the benefits of a full and fair hearing.

In the event that the classification by the appeal board is unfavorable you should follow the suggestions on pages 24 through 27 of the Procedure booklet.

Please keep me informed of the developments in your case.

Your brother,

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