

Substance of Hearing Before  
Hearing Officer  
Eastern District of Washington  
(Harry T. Davenport)  
May 7, 1954

Hearing was started by hearing officer making reference to letter of appeal that I had written and which was contained in my file which he had before him. Statements were made by registrant as to present classification, 1-A, classification appealed for, 1V-D, date of birth, May 10, 1934, the neutral stand taken by Jehovah's witnesses, Missionary assignment I hold in Ephrata, Washington, and my position as non-combatant service, all "pioneers" of Jehovah's witnesses being full-time ministers and seeking 2V-D. All of this was in response to questions asked by hearing officer.

Questions were next asked as to how many of Jehovah's witnesses there were at Grand Coulee, (24) and I was asked to name the different servant positions in the congregation and what each of their duties were, which was done. Questions were asked and answered as to Congregation Committee.

In response to questions the difference between a Pioneer and a Congregation Publisher was explained. Also number of Witnesses at Ephrata (16), and servant positions I am holding which are, Bible Study Servant, Theocratic Ministry School Servant, Territory Servant, and Area Study Conductor. More statements were made as to time spent and activities of the pioneer work I am doing.

Discussions on where I live, what work I do, compensation derived, and other questions as to standard of living were asked and answered.

Questions next were asked as to what occasioned my missionary work in Ephrata. It was my assignment there by the Watchtower Society upon the acceptance of my application to be a pioneer. At the time I started there there was no active group which there is now. Application for a Congregation were made to the Society in October, 1952, I started to pioneer there May 1, 1952. The Society has assigned the Ephrata Congregation surrounding towns and rurals which I am also working.

After a discussion of the "Certificate For Pioneer" a discussion followed on the acceptability of a 1-O classification in which it was pointed out that I was a conscientious objector as well as a minister and that section 1623.2 of the Selective Service Regulations states that a registrant shall be placed in one or more of the classes listed and that he shall be placed in the lowest class for which he is determined to be eligible. The Dickinson case was also pointed to as substantial backing for a IV-D.

Mrs. H. C. Green of Electric City, Wash. was presented as a witness and testified that all that I had said was true and that she knew of no reason to doubt my sincerity and convictions. She stated she had known me from childhood. Mrs. Green also took notes on the hearing for me.

With this the hearing ended.