



# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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For Immediate Release

Commending the nationwide campaign under way now for hunters to save fats from deer and elk for war uses, Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, Director, Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior, today added his appeal to sportsmen to enlist in this latest drive to aid the country's war program.

"We have been advised by the War Production Board that there is a very definite need for additional fats to make explosives," stated Dr. Gabrielson. "After the surplus fats taken from big game animals are rendered, the grease contains about 10 per cent glycerin which is needed in the production of ammunition. If hunters will cut the fat from deer during this fall hunting season and turn it into war production channels, they can enjoy their sport and help win the war at the same time."

There are more than 900,000 big game animals, including deer, elk, moose, and antelope, killed in the United States each year. At an average of only 100 pounds each, with an allowance of about 6 pounds of excess fat for each animal, a potential  $5\frac{1}{2}$  million pounds of fat could be saved and converted to war use, the Service official pointed out.

Although the fat salvage program will be a national one, Dr. Gabrielson suggested that it should be handled locally by sportsmen's organizations in cooperation with the salvage drive committees.

"Fat depots for receiving surplus animal fats are being set up by local interested groups in many hunting communities, according to reports coming in from the field," continued Dr. Gabrielson, "and we are urging our field men to cooperate to the fullest extent."

Supplies of fats turned in by hunters to these authorized receiving stations will be placed in the hands of firms who can do the rendering and handle distribution to proper channels. Local associations collecting fats are cautioned however, that when shipping fat to the renderers it should be sent in leak-proof barrels and should be free of hair or particles of flesh.