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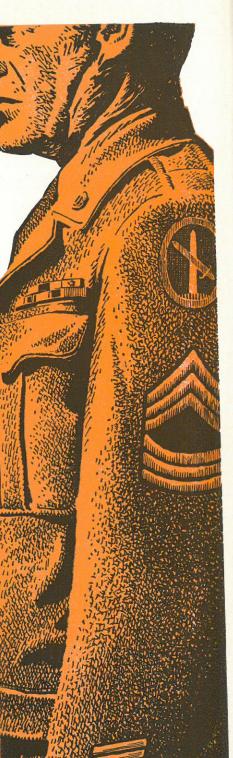
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dear guardsmen:

One of the things that's been in the back of our mind for a long time, finally has worked its way front, and starting here and now, we're going to try to get you

acquainted with people in Association Headquarters who keep the wheels turning.

It's appropriate to start with one of the charter members, so to speak, of the staff: Mrs Barbara Proctor, who rides herd on all membership activities and records.



Soft Southern (Occuquan, Va) accent and all, Barbara started back in 1947 when THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN was launched on its "run for record." She cut address stencils, kept subscription records, hand-punched expiration code holes in stencils 'til her tender hands were sore.

Maternity leave took her away for a while, but then she came back to Circulation Department activity, and a couple of years ago, moved up to head the Membership Department. That's her "baby," and no fooling

With practically a photographic memory for names, she can G2 whether the John J Zilch who was a 2d Lt in Pennsyltucky five years ago, is the same member who now pops up, signing his name as J Jasper Zilch and a Captain in Kabraska-and get the records adjusted to show his continuity. She watches those records like a hawk, too, rightfully takes pride in the unprecedented climb in Association membership from a few thousand in the "old days," to nearly 36,000 today.

Oh, yes; hobbies-rattlesnake-hunting and basketball. (Bowling used to be among them but "it's too tough on my tender bones," she says).

THE STAFF

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our cover

It's farewell to Korea (as a Division) for Oklahoma's 45 "Thunderbird" Inf, which here is massed for its final parade and review before its commander, Maj Gen Maxwell D Taylor. Personnel of the Division, first to be permanently withdrawn from Korea where it landed in Dec 1951, have been scattered for the most part to other divisions still in Korea. And the unit's Colors were carried home by scarcely 1,000 men scheduled for rotation. (Wide World Photo).