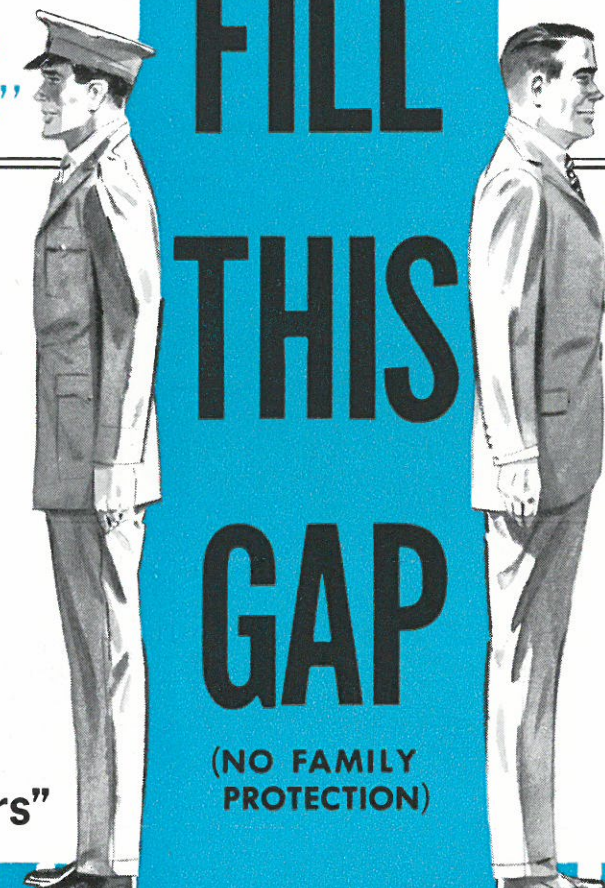


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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN

1 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., N. W., WASHINGTON 1, D. C.
PHONE DISTRICT 7-0341

APRIL, 1961

15-4

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Publication Office

★Telegraph Press Bldg.,
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

General offices: 1 Massachusetts Ave., N. W. Washington 1, D. C. Second class postage paid at Harrisburg, Pa., and at additional mailing offices.

Domestic subscriptions for home delivery: \$2.00 per year. A year's subscription is included within the annual dues paid by members of the National Guard Association of the United States. Subscriptions to foreign countries \$2.50 per year.

SPECIAL RATES TO NATIONAL GUARD UNITS FOR BULK SUBSCRIPTIONS TO ONE ADDRESS: 11 to 100 subscriptions, \$1.75 per subscription; 101 to 800 subscriptions, \$1.50 per subscription; 801 or more subscriptions, \$1.25 per subscription; SINGLE COPIES, 25c.

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THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN welcomes original articles bearing on matters of National defense with special emphasis on Army National Guard and Air National Guard aspects. Payment is made upon publication at a minimum rate of three cents per published word. Manuscripts must be accompanied by return postage, and no responsibility is assumed for their safe handling.

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DEAR GUARDSMEN: As the old saying in newspaperdom goes: "Dog Bites Man" isn't news; "Man Bites Dog" is news. That's a guiding principle in our selection of stories and photos for "Posting the Guard."

National newsworthiness—not just local interest—is the yardstick. We get far, far more copy and pix than we can possibly use, so a process of elimination applies . . . What do we want? Public service (disasters, rescues, mercy flights, etc). Prompt coverage and adequate detail are important: What units were ordered-out, how quickly did they respond, how many men were involved, for how long, what duties did they perform, were there any outstanding performances? . . . Extraordinary accomplishments (Pvt Joe Blow gets elected Mayor of his town; Sgt John Doe's awarded a medal for rescuing a drowning man) . . . Big family combinations within a unit . . . Personnel actions involving widely-known individuals. These subjects rarely qualify unless there's a truly off-beat angle: Organization anniversaries . . . Armory dedications . . . Pix of billboards, window displays, static exhibits, parades, floats . . . State and Regional rifle and pistol matches . . . Silver dollar paydays . . . Blood donations. —AGC

OUR COVER: One hundred years ago, fathers and sons, brothers, friends and neighbors, North and South, burning with pent-up passions, flocked to the Stars and Stripes, or to the new-born Stars and Bars. But for a bare handful, all were raised by their States and were tied by deep loyalty to their States—the forebears of the National Guard of today. Their spirit, which never will die, is commemorated in Lou Nolan's cover design for this issue.

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