



THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN

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

AUGUST, 1961 15-8

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 de-
livery: \$2.00 per year. A year's sub-
scription 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 SUB-
SCRIPTIONS TO ONE ADDRESS: 20
to 200 subscriptions, \$1.75 per subscrip-
tion; 201 or more subscriptions, \$1.50
per subscription; SINGLE COPIES, 25c.

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TIONS, SHOULD BE ADDRESSED
TO 1 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., N.W.,
WASHINGTON 1, D. C.

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CONTENTS

AS WE SEE IT	INSIDE FRONT COVER
THE NEW "ROAD" DIVISION	2
WASHINGTON REPORT	5
INCIDENTALLY	6
HEROES OF THE NATIONAL GUARD	8
THE EYES OF TEXAS WERE UPON THEM	11
DO YOUR "SURPRISE" ALERTS REALLY SURPRISE?	12
AIR GUARD SHINES AT AF SHOOT-OFF	14
"PAPER CHASE" PROPOSALS AIM AT TIME AND LABOR SAVING	16
AIR GUARD HAULS CARGO FOR MATS, WINS PRAISE	17
PENTAGON PARAGRAPH	18
SCHOOL BELLS	19
TECHNICAL AND TACTICAL	20
"MINUTE MAN" STATUE PROPOSAL MOVES AHEAD	21
NGAUS COUNCIL COVERS WIDE FIELD AT SUMMER MEETING	22
POSTING THE GUARD	23
SOUND OFF	32
PICTURE GALLERY	INSIDE BACK COVER

DEAR GUARDSMEN: The National Guard Memorial in Washington's not as big as the Capitol, as tall as the Washington Monument, or as glamorous as the Bureau of Printing & Engraving (where our paper money comes from). But, ever since the day two years ago when "former Farmer" (as he identified himself) Harry S Truman signed the register, a steady flow of Guardsmen and their families, and just plain tourists, has wended its way through the beautiful Hall of States and Headquarters of the National Guard Assn of the US. The count runs to more than 1650—and we know many visitors omitted to "sign the book."

A few weeks ago, an arrangement was worked-out so that, for the first time, it's possible to keep the Memorial open to visitors on weekends, during the hours from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

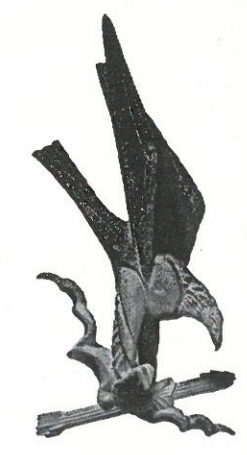
So far, the Saturday-Sunday visits have amounted to only a trickle—but that's been without any general publicity whatsoever—just Guardsmen (usually, students at nearby Service schools) and tourists who drifted by. Their reaction has been that of those who have come before: highly impressed by the living monument to all Guardsmen—past, present and future.

We like visitors; we're proud to display our handsome show-place. So, when you come to Washington, come and see us. —AGC

OUR COVER: The shape (which only reflects the composition) of the Army's Divisions is ever-changing: a "square" four-Regiment setup from the First World War until World War II; a three-regimental "triangular" Division from WW II through the Korean War; more recently, a five-Battle Group "Pentomic" organization, and now, a "triangle" again with three Brigades. Why the new shape, and what it signifies, are told in this issue.



AS WE SEE IT



SUNDAY DRILLS

SPEAKING eloquently for itself on the subject of Sunday drills, which meet resistance in some circles, is the following letter written more than a year ago, but as timely now as ever. Penned by Mrs Richardson F Sanders, a Guardsman's wife living in Newberry, SC, it was published originally in the Newberry "Sun" and later in South Carolina's "Palmetto Guardsman."

I may get in "hot water" for what I am going to say now, but I've been there before for several items I have written in the past and I suppose that is what is to be expected when one says what one thinks.

Before writing this I will state that I do not know how any of our local ministers voted on this Resolution at a State Convention last week, and I would be glad to print any comments they may have on the subject which has to do with the Sunday drills of National Guard units in South Carolina.

As I recall, the Resolution opposed such drills "except in cases of national emergency." I am wondering if those pastors who voted against the Sunday drills ever voted against soldiers fighting on Sunday to protect the country in World War II and during the Korean Conflict? Have they ever voted to stop all military personnel from performing any kind of work on Sunday? Would they have the entire defense of the nation come to a complete stop on Sunday? Would they cease the operation of radar scopes which would pick up signals from enemy planes, and just hope the enemy planes wouldn't bother to come around the nation's coast on Sunday?

Would these ministers vote to have the youth of America go into battle totally unprepared, as far too many of them did during World War II? Before voting on such a resolution, did they investigate and find that religious services are available to every Guardsman during every Sunday drill on a voluntary basis?

One Guard Chaplain made a most apt statement when he said in effect, "what we need is more cooperation from these ministers, and less criticism."

My husband has been attending Sunday National Guard drills for some eight years now. His opinion, and I have

heard others say the same, is that some of the best sermons he has ever heard were the sermons at Sunday Guard drills. There are many who attend these religious services at Sunday drills who do not attend church any other time.

Would these ministers prefer that the Guardsmen attend a one-hour service at their respective churches, then spend the remainder of the day playing golf, or riding around on dangerous highways, or looking at TV shows at home?

If religious services were not provided, and Guardsmen desired them, this would be an entirely different matter. But even if services were not provided it would be my thought that a Guardsman who wavers from his religion just because he misses a Sunday at church was not much of a Christian anyway and probably goes to church only because he thinks it is the thing to do.

I hesitate to use any stronger language lest I offend some of my friends; however, I am of the honest opinion that the ministers in convention acted before they thought and investigated thoroughly and I admire those unknown ministers of the Gospel who urged the Convention to take time to investigate the matter before taking hasty action. Their pleas were ignored by the majority, evidently, since the Resolution was passed. I wish that each minister who voted in favor of censuring the Sunday drills would spend at least one Sunday with a Guard unit and see not only what fine religious services they are offered, but what excellent use is made of the day to train these young men, most of whom would otherwise be idling their Sundays away in some much less worthwhile recreation.

I might also mention that possibly a nice share of the money they receive for their Sunday training eventually finds its way into the collection plates of their respective churches. ♦



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