

Presenting . . .

### THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF

For the second successive year—and the second time in the National Guard Association's 73-year history—a President of the United States came over to its General Conference to address Guardsmen gathered from all of the States and Territories. And it was in his capacity as a one-time Guardsman, and now as Commander-in-Chief of all of the Nation's Armed Forces, that Colonel Harry S. Truman was greeted with a standing ovation by the jam-packed roomful of Delegates. Backed by a colorful array of the flags of all of the States and Territories, and by some of the Nation's highest government and military leaders, the smiling Chief Executive raised a hand to quiet the applause which led right into the following remarks:

"Thank you very much. Of course, I would be happy to have that go on indefinitely, but you know my schedule runs every 15 minutes. As I told some people that needed a briefing the other day, the President spends most of his time trying to get people to do what they ought to do without being persuaded. That is my business."

"You know, there is a great deal of talk about what powerful and wonderful office the Presidency is. There is a book just out called 'The Presidency' and if you will take a look at that you will find that most of the powers of the President are troubles and it is his business to see that they are straightened out. Now, I am most happy to be over here again with you today. I was here last year and I think I told you that my first military experience was in the National Guard of the United States in 1905, in June, the 14th day of June, on Flag Day. I had been 21 since the 8th of May of that year and I joined the National Guard. My father and mother wouldn't give me permission to join before I was 21—in those days you had to have permission if you were under 21—because they were afraid I would have to wear a blue uniform."

"Well, I had to wear one and it was a beautiful thing. It had a red fourragere on the shoulder, had red stripes down the breeches legs, had gold buttons on it. I wore it out to see my old red-haired grandmother who had gone through the War between the States. She looked me over very carefully and she said, 'Harry, that is the first time since 1865 that that blue uniform has been in the house. Don't bring it here any more.'"

"And you couldn't blame the old lady for feeling like that because she had had to cook for a regiment of Federal soldiers all day, until she wore blisters on her fingers, and they weren't satisfied with that. They went down into her barnyard—my grandfather was at that time out in Salt Lake City with a wagon train—and killed 400 of her fat hogs and just cut the hams out and left the rest lying. So

I couldn't blame her for being a little bit disgruntled about the situation.

"But in my generation and the ones to come, those things are all forgotten. We are now the greatest republic in the history of the world because we are united. When it comes to doing our duty as it is set out in the charter of the United Nations, there is no South, no North, no East, no West. We are all together. And it is gentlemen in positions such as you are in to willingly give of their time and to work for the military welfare of the country that gives us a chance to meet the necessities with which we are now faced. It took us more than 30 years to find out that we have a place in the world that we have to fill. We were forced into it by two world wars. I am doing my best to prevent a third one. And the job that you gentlemen are doing is contributing to the prevention of that third world war."

"I can't tell you how very much I appreciate your willingness to do what you are doing. You are working for 153,000,000 people. Just keep it up. And one of these days we are going to reach a position and a condition in the world where the charter of the United Nations will be implemented just as the Constitution of the United States was. You know, it took us 80 years to make that Constitution work and as I said a while ago, we spent four years whipping ourselves before we made it work completely. We can, I think, implement that charter without another conflagration because another conflagration, I think, would be practically the end of civilization. I think everybody around the world appreciates that."

"Gentlemen, I thank you for this invitation. I appreciate being here. I always feel like I am coming back to my first military education when I come to a National Guard meeting. And I hope that you have a successful conference here and that you will continue to do just what you are doing to make the country safe. Thank you very much."

## THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN



OFFICIAL

PUBLICATION

National Guard Association of the United States  
400 Sixth Street, N. W., Washington 1, D. C.  
Phone: District 0341 TWX: WA 208

DECEMBER, 1951

VOL. 5, No. 12

### CONTENTS

The Commander-in-Chief	Inside Front Cover
The 73d General Conference	2
They'd Rather Risk Death	6
Through a Delegate's Eyes	8
Committed to Combat	10
The Post-Korea Air National Guard	12
to IKE from US	14
Washington Report	17
"Tool Kit" Takes Recruiting Load off CO's Aching Backs	21
What They Said	22
The Great Outdoors	23
"At Home" in Japan with the "Sunshine" Division	24
Pentagon Paragraphs	26
In Combat . . . in Korea	28
"Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved"	30
Posting the Guard	34
Sound Off!	38
As We See It	Inside Back Cover

Published monthly by The National Guard Assn. of the U. S. Publication Offices: Telegraph Press Bldg., Harrisburg, Pa. General offices: Stewart Bldg., 400 Sixth St., N. W., Washington 1, D. C. Entered as second class matter on September 1, 1947, at the post office at Harrisburg, Pa., under the act of March 3, 1879.

Domestic subscriptions: \$2.00 per year to members of the National Guard Assn. of the U. S.; \$3.00 per year to non-members (Foreign and Canada \$3.50). HOME DELIVERY TO NATIONAL GUARD ENLISTED MEN, \$2.50 PER SUBSCRIPTION.

SPECIAL RATES TO N. G. UNITS FOR BULK SUBSCRIPTIONS TO ONE ADDRESS.

11 to 50 subscriptions, \$2.00 per subscription.  
51 to 100 subscriptions, \$1.75 per subscription.  
101 or more subscriptions, \$1.50 per subscription.  
Single copies, 25c.

Manuscripts and pictures should be addressed to the Editorial Office. Unsolicited manuscripts must be accompanied by return postage, and no responsibility is assumed for their safe handling.

Address changes should be forwarded to Circulation Dept., The National Guardsmen, Stewart Bldg., 400 Sixth St., N. W., Washington 1, D. C. PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR OLD ADDRESS WHEN REQUESTING CHANGE TO NEW ADDRESS.

Copyright, 1951, The National Guard Assn. of the United States. All rights reserved.

DECEMBER, 1951

*Dear Guardsmen;*

In addition to other duties we, with the help of the DCNG, managed to get 52 State and Territorial and DC flags from office to hotel and back without busting off more than one ornamental eagle and ripping only about half the dust covers.

Getting to be flag specialists of a sort, we're off next to the factory, down near Valley Forge, to inspect a brand new set of all of the State flags that the NGAUS is having made for presentation to the U.S. Military Academy (there's a story about that, inside). At the same time, maybe we'll get a chance to look at Washington's historic headquarters—never have seen it, despite a lifetime's residence in Pennsylvania.

Maybe you'll notice (now that we're calling your attention to it) that, dotted here and there at the bottom of this column or that, is a little one-, two-, or three-line "filler" of information about the National Guard.

They're interspersed for the primary purpose of indicating some of the publicity and recruiting aids the Information Office of NGB is distributing wholesale for the units' use. Among others is a full-color poster, which we have adapted for use on our back cover this month; and a series of Ripley-type features, one of which appears in connection with our "Tool Kit" article, intended for local newspaper use.

It's worth keeping in mind that these aids, and the many others that soon will be available through your Adjutant General's Office, can help a lot with your recruiting, if you'll use them well. Not that they'll eliminate the door-bell ringing and buttonholing that are required to actually GET recruits.

*The Staff*

#### ON OUR COVER

A portion of New England's 43d "Winged Victory" Division forms on the dock at Bremerhaven after disembarking from the U. S. Transport General H. W. Butner. They formed the vanguard of the first National Guard division ever sent to Europe in peacetime. (Wide World Photos, Inc.)

#### NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

##### OFFICERS

Maj. Gen. E. A. Walsh, President  
Maj. Gen. Leo M. Kreber, Vice-President  
Brig. Gen. F. M. Waterbury, Secretary  
Brig. Gen. W. H. Abendroth, Treasurer

##### COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION

Maj. Gen. E. J. Stackpole, Chairman  
Maj. Gen. Sumter L. Lowry, Vice-Chairman  
Maj. Gen. Leo M. Boyle Maj. Gen. K. L. Berry  
Maj. Gen. Walter J. Hanna Brig. Gen. Lyle E. Halstead  
Brig. Gen. Kenneth F. Cooper Brig. Gen. Leonard E. Thomas

##### EXECUTIVE STAFF

##### THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN

Allan G. Crist, Executive Editor  
Robert A. Hunter, Associate Editor