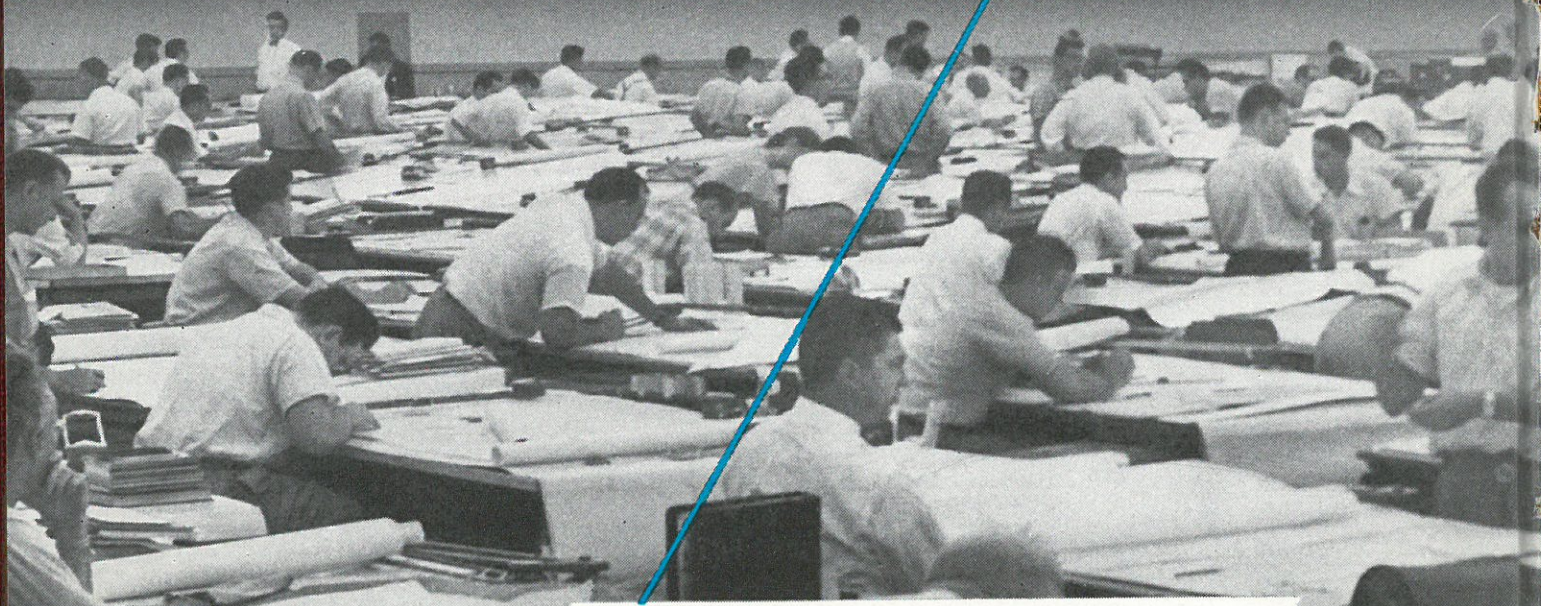


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dear guardsmen:

There's nothing more pleasing to the editors of THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN than to have received evidence aplenty that interest in the magazine is growing steadily among its readers. And what makes it still more gratifying is that this interest comes not alone from the various State Hq, but mainly from the rank and file in company-size units throughout the land.

We have been asked just why some units and a few of the States don't get anything whatever in the magazine. And the companion question has been, what specific kind of stories and pictures would "make the grade."

First, we can't print what we never get. Some outfits either don't make outstanding news; or, if they do, they don't tell us. We don't have correspondents spotted throughout the Country, and it's up to the individual Guardsman or his unit (or the State Hq, its PIO or other officer) to send in to us stories and pictures of Nationwide interest.

What kind of copy is likely to catch the Editor's eyes? Something that would interest other outfits many miles away from your own. Unit dances, training that is common to units throughout the National Guard, and unit competitions that are of interest only in a particular area, cannot warrant publication in your magazine which is Nationally and not locally slanted. Your unit must have an unusual gimmick in its activities to make them of more than local interest. A study of the kind of material run in the magazine's "Posting the Guard" section should provide you with ideas of just what would click with the Editors.

THE STAFF

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our cover

There are many unusual aspects of field training for the National Guard's most Northerly units in Alaska—and our cover photo illustrates several of them: (1) Winter's the time, rather than Summer, when Alaska Guardsmen have field training; (2) the natural everyday life of most Eskimo members fits them ideally for the outposts nature of their mission; (3) battling the elements becomes strictly routine when the Guardsmen leave their tent camp for cold training areas. Here, three Guardsmen from the 207 Inf Bn (Seward and Homer) prepare to fire their rocket launcher in a snowstorm. (US Army Photo)