It will not, in my opinion, be possible to maintain authorized strengths of organizations remaining in the States unless we are permitted to recruit young men at least through age 21. We must continue our efforts, of course, to enlist veterans and prior service men with remaining military obligations, but I am doubtful that this will produce sufficient numbers to be an appreciable factor in the maintenance of strength.

The current actions to strengthen the Military Services are, it has been implied, designed for the long haul. This is a realistic reaction to the very ominous fact that should the current crisis be dissolved, we will continue to be faced with Communist truculence and the military threats of Communist nations for an indefinite period. We no longer can live from crisis to crisis. It is imperative, therefore, that with the strengthening of our Active Forces, there must be no lessening of the strength and readiness of the Reserve Components. We must continue to provide for the part-time military training of the largest possible numbers of young Americans.

Even at the increased rate of induction, the tremendous manpower available in the Selective Service pools will be tapped to a point hardly below the surface. There will remain large numbers of young men eligible for military service who will not be called, and the least the Country can expect of these is service in a Reserve Component. These young men will be in the gray area of the Selective Service pool-not touched by draft calls, which are not expected in the foreseeable future to reach for men below age 22-and vet not eligible for enlistment in a Reserve Component. Some of these men under age 22 will, of course, enlist in the Active Services, but hardly enough to make a noticeable dent in the large numbers available.

Our experience in past mobilizations, both partial and total, has been that organizations of the National Guard ordered to active duty have not been returned to the respective States intact, and frequently the numerical designations never have been returned. It is our hope that with the termination of service of units now ordered to active duty, there will not only be preserved the integrity of the organizations while in service, but that the whole organization with designations will, upon release from active duty, be returned to their States.

I have expressed to the Secretary of the Army a hope that the Department will at the earliest possible moment offer firm policy guidance and directives in these serious matters, for such is important to the continued efficient administration and training of the Army National Guard.

## ACTIVE DUTY TRAINING

As the Delegates well know, the National Guard Association and the preponderance of our Adjutants General and our senior commanders never have been convinced that a full six months of training is required for a nonprior service enlistee in order to bring him to the proper level of training to be effectively integrated with his National Guard unit. We very strongly advocate, of course, the continuance of the active duty for training program as provided for in the Reserve Forces Act of 1955. It has been, however, the feeling of a great many that too large a proportion of this period has been expended on unnecessary type unit training, which could well be given at home stations, on travel between training stations, and in leave.

There has been for some years considerable discussion within our organizations of the possibility of reducing this period to something less than the presently required six months. It may be recalled that, prior to and following the passage of the Reserve Forces Act of 1955, which

authorized a period of basic training for non-prior service enlistees, the National Guard Association was opposed not to the idea of such training, but to the period of time proposed by the Defense Department. It was our feeling then that six months was unduly long and unnecessary. We were particularly concerned that a good many young men willing to enlist in the Army National Guard would be discouraged because the required active duty training could not be accomplished in a period between school semesters. I know that this matter has been given study from time to time by the Department of the Army. I feel, and I know that this feeling is concurred in by a great many experienced officers, both on the Army Staff and in the Army National Guard, that the same training could be accomplished in a shorter period, provided the time for travel between training stations could be eliminated and the training was limited to Basic and Advanced Individual programs. There are, of course, the economics of this matter to be considered. With the reduction of the training period to four months and the elimination of the cost incident to the transfer between training stations, the total monies appropriated for such training could, of course, accommodate substantially increased numbers.

In view of the increased training load placed upon the Army as the result of the current partial mobilization and the increases in Active Army strength, this matter is especially significant. There could be no more appropriate time for a re-evaluation of the program. The shorter training period would certainly ease the Army's load.

### CARETAKER PLANS

Departure from any State of a sizeable Army National Guard organization or an appreciable number of smaller separate units can be expected to result for those States involved in some personnel problems affecting our fulltime Technicians. There will be, understandably, some lessening of the requirement for a full-scale force. It is my understanding that this may be especially so in the operation of State Maintenance Shops and the United States Property and Fiscal Offices.

Similarly, we will have the problem of maintaining installations which may be closed for the duration of the active duty of the organization which it housed. The Air National Guard has faced-up realistically to these problems, recognizing that both the Federal and State Governments have tremendous investments in these installations and in the competent Technician forces that have been built up over the years. By leaving adequate caretaker forces and making other provisions to maintain air installations in the States, the Air National Guard has taken the proper steps for the protection of this investment.

I hope that it shall be possible to follow similar procedures on the Army side and that the National Guard Bureau will consider wisely the importance of protecting our investments in personnel and property.

# OFFICER CANIDATE SCHOOLS

I have had occasion during the past year to observe and to hear many fine comments on the operation of our State Officer Candidate Schools. I am sure you all agree that this program to train young and qualified leaders is probably the most important of our Army projects, because upon these young leaders rests the future of the Army National Guard. I am hopeful that those Officer Candidates who may be in units now mobilized or to be mobilized will be permitted through some special arrangement by the Army to continue their Officer Candidate training. I know the Chief of the National Guard Bureau

-Continued on page 45

# NATIONAL GUARDSMAN

PHONE DISTRICT 7-0341

NOVEMBER, 1961 15-11

### 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

SPECIAL RATES TO NATIONAL GUARD UNITS FOR BULK SUB-SCRIPTIONS TO ONE ADDRESS: 20 to 200 subscriptions, \$1.75 per subscription; 201 or more subscriptions, \$1.50 per subscription; SINGLE COPIES, 25c.

\*ALL MATERIAL INTENDED FOR PUBLICATION, AND SUBSCRIP-TIONS, SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO 1 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., N.W., WASHINGTON 1, D. C.

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.

Prompt notice is requested of change of address, preferably by the return of an address label from the magazine. PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR OLD AS WELL AS YOUR NEW ADDRESS.

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# CONTENTS

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT	'ro	nt	Co	ver
When The Whistle Blows!				4
Washington Report				8
THE 83D GENERAL CONFERENCE:				
General Roundup				12
Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved:				16
CRISIS TODAY, GREATER THINGS TOMORROW				18
As Others See Us				20
FOR YOUR INFORMATION				25
Incidentally				29
"Top-Notch Professionals!"				30
THE GUARD WAS READY!				32
TALKING BIRD!				34
Pentagon Paragraphs				35
School Bells				36
TECHNICAL AND TACTICAL	٠.	· •		37
DISASTER CONTROL, DELAWARE STYLE				38
Posting The Guard				40
Sound Off				48

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