

The President's Page

THE CONGRESS

A RECENT highlight in the Congress was the initial meeting of the Special Committee on Reserve Components of the House Armed Services Committee to consider the operation and procedure of the recently established Committee on Civilian Components in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. All components of the Armed Forces were represented at the meeting in question, including the National Guard Association and the National Guard Bureau. The hearing was most satisfactory in all respects and there was evident a spirit of harmony and cooperation that augured well, not only for the future operations of the Policy Board, but for the overall defense of the Nation. It was the unanimous conclusion of the Special Committee that the Board should be given a reasonable length of time, at least until January or beyond, in which to demonstrate what it could do.

The Special Committee directed that the Board report periodically to the Committee with reference to its plans and considerations. Prior to the hearing, the Secretary of Defense announced the appointment of Mr. William T. Faricy, President of the Association of American Railroads as Chairman and shortly after the hearing, the appointment of Colonel Luke Finley of New York, associated with the Standard Oil Company, as the Executive Officer.

All concerned feel that the Civilian Components Policy Board has a golden opportunity to render a great service where the reserve components of the Armed Forces are concerned, and to this end there is a definite desire on the part of the Regular and reserve components to cooperate to the fullest possible extent. This is particularly so where the National Guard is concerned, and the officers of the National Guard Association have assured the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Board that they will cooperate to the utmost.

THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

THE past month has witnessed many changes in the Department of the Army as the result of the selection of General Omar N. Bradley to be Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. This choice by the President was almost a foregone conclusion, for no man in all the Nation stands higher in the affection and esteem of the American people than does the former Chief of Staff of the Army. His appointment was a fitting recognition of his great abilities and significant contributions to the welfare and security of the Nation. The National Guard, like all others, is proud that this great honor has come to him, but nevertheless regrets his separation from the Army. During his tour of duty as Chief of Staff, the National Guard, on many occasions, brought to his attention its problems, and always found a most

sympathetic ear and invariably he was able to find a solution.

General Bradley has been succeeded as Chief of Staff of the Army by General J. Lawton Collins, former Vice Chief of Staff, and his appointment is indeed a well merited recognition by the President of his abilities as an administrator and of his distinguished services as a great field commander.

With the elevation of General Collins and the approaching retirement of General Jacob Devers as Chief of the Army Field Forces, numerous other changes in the high command of the Department of the Army are in process. General Mark Clark, who has been in command of the Sixth Army Area, succeeds General Devers, and General Wade Haislip, former Deputy Chief of Staff of the Army, has been appointed by General Collins as Vice Chief of Staff. To each, we extend our heartiest congratulations and assure them of our unquestioned support. As General Devers retires we wish him long life and happiness.

MONTGOMERY

AS THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN goes to press, arrangements have been practically completed for the 71st General Conference at Montgomery, Ala., October 24-25-26-27. Major General James S. Saliba and his Committee on General Arrangements have labored indefatigably and it is apparent that the Montgomery General Conference will be momentous and outstanding. The Association is fortunate indeed that in addition to an outstanding program, it will be honored by many distinguished guests who will address the Conference. Among our honored guests will be the Chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Secretary of the Army, the Chief of Staff of the Army, Members of the Senate and the House, the Governor of Alabama, the Commanding Generals of the Third Army and Fourteenth Air Force, the National Director of Selective Service, the Chief, National Guard Bureau, the Mayor of Montgomery and others.

Detailed instructions as to the time and place, hotel reservations and landing of aircraft have been forwarded to the various Adjutants General. It is highly advisable that hotel reservations be made without delay. The States, Territories and the District of Columbia are urged, if they have not already done so, to forward to the Association Offices in Washington a list of Delegates, Assignments to the Conference Committees on Nominations, Resolutions and Time and Place, and any subjects which they desire to have contained in the Agenda of the Conference.

E. Walsh

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Dear Guardsmen;

The problems keep running through our brain while we toss fitfully in bed: this picture's 7" deep by 9½" wide; we've got to fit it into a hole 2 13/16" deep by 4¾" wide; will we chop off this guy's head or that one's feet? . . . here's a 12 x 14 print from Pennsylvania and a snap-shot from Indifornia; how will we scale them so they'll look well on the same page? . . . doggone it, if that outfit only were headed toward the right instead of the left, it wouldn't look as if it was marching right off the page . . . this gun crew in action looks good, but we've got an overage of gun crews; maybe we'd better use these doughfeet instead.

At least 954 times in the past three months—once for every field training photograph that has passed through our hands, and we may have skipped a few in our count—we've scanned, studied, analyzed and finally made our selections, then scaled, marked, cropped and written outlines for the 177 shots that have made the grade for our August, September, and October issues.

The competition for space has grown tougher with every passing month of the field training season. The offerings—and the selections—have mushroomed from 34 printed in August, to 55 in September, and now, with everyone trying to get under the wire at the end of the season, we turn up with 88 pictures on 17 pages, not counting the cover. We'd have been lost without that new slipstick for calculating reduction or enlargement of pix, that we picked up in Chicago.

If your State hasn't been represented in our layouts, it's only because no one sent us the photos. They've come from newspapers, amateur photographers, Army and Air Force technicians, commercial lensmen. They've come in 'most every size from miniature to bulky enlargement. (Note: 8 x 10 is best for most purposes.)

With every additional picture page, we've had to push more type and "art" into the holdover galleys. The last time we looked, we had enough copy and cuts in the icebox to fill one issue, if we didn't write another line for a solid month. Authors get impatient to see their stuff in print, but after all, field training comes only once a year, and we can't think of any better way—short of being there yourself—to tell what went on in the various camps, than through pictures.

A lot of hard-working PIOs, professional and amateur lensmen, and unit commanders or their subordinates, made it possible, and we're truly appreciative of the bang-up job they've done. We wish we could have used every picture they sent us.

Personally, however, as we shuffle through the mounting pile of discards, we won't be unhappy if we don't see another field training picture until next Summer.

The Staff

OUR COVER

If ever a guy was "bushed," it was Sgt. Emmett Coleman, after a tough, hot day of field training. And if ever there was anything refreshing, it was that handful of cold water he sloshed over his face. As Sergeant Coleman and any veteran of WW II knows, an inverted helmet makes a fine wash basin. Sergeant Coleman is a member of Co. C, 150th Inf., and his home is in Oak Hill, W. Va.

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