

AS WE SEE IT . . .



In Memoriam

MAJOR GENERAL GEORGE EMERSON LEACH
Minnesota National Guard (Retired)

BORN 14 JULY 1876

DIED 17 JULY 1955

Commissioned 2d Lt, Btry B, 1st Minn FA, 15 Apr 1905, he commanded his Regiment on the Mexican Border and in the First World War, earning his first star, and the Distinguished Service Medal, the Distinguished Service Cross, the Legion of Honor, and the Croix de Guerre with three palms and a star, on the battlefields of France.

Chief of the National Guard Bureau, 1931 to 1935, General Leach fought for motorization of the National Guard's Field Artillery when many in the Regular Army were clinging desperately to animal-power. Progressive in his thinking when pacifism and "economy" were retarding development of our Armed Forces, he promoted the development of the Air Arm within the National Guard. General Leach became a ranking member of the "Caterpillar Club" when, the engine of an open-cockpit biplane spurting fire and the pilot shouting a warning that he must be prepared to jump, he caught only the word "jump," and acted accordingly, landing in Arizona wastelands and wandering for hours before encountering a human being.

President of the National Guard Association of the United States, 1937-38, he contributed greatly to the accomplishments and prestige of the Association, receiving its Distinguished Service Medal at the 75th "Diamond Jubilee" General Conference in San Diego, California, in 1953, thereby marking one of his last major public appearances.

Mayor of Minneapolis, Minn, longer than any other man, in six terms, 1921-29 and again 1937-41; Commanding General, 34 Inf Div, until his retirement on 13 July 1940, General Leach served his City, his State, and his Nation faithfully and well.

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dear guardsmen:

The international flavor that distinguishes Washington has pervaded the Hq of the National Guard Assn of the US in the person of pert, sparkling Julie



Yzquierdo (Ees-care-dough is about as close as a Pennsylvania Dutchman can come to converting the name phonetically).

A blend of German-French-Spanish blood, native of Chile, resident of Cuba for most of her schools days (in a French convent), Julie realized a childhood ambition when she finally "made it" to the US about 18 months ago with her widowed mother. Quiet observation of the appearance and manner of American tourists, and of ideas of American life, Government, opportunities, gained through US movies, books, magazines, not only attracted Julie to the US but enabled her to master the "American" language and to adjust immediately to American ways.

A fast and proficient address stencil-cutter on THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN crew, the talented Miss was the subject of illustrated feature stories in Washington papers recently as a "Miss Washington" contestant. She's a fan of modern ballet, specializes as a Calypso dancer, loves to contribute her services to USO musical shows, and to swim; studies drama on an informal basis with the hope of maybe, sometime, earning a scholarship; and still has found time to make "lots of nice friends."

THE STAFF

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our cover

The first close exposure to machinegun fire—even "friendly"—is a little ear-rattling, as is evident by the reaction of the Asst Gunner as a grim-faced Cpl of the Conn-RI-Vt 43 Inf Div rips off a burst during field training at Cp Drum, NY. (43 Sig Co Photo).