



MG Charles M. Kiefner, President, NGAUS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

THE 112th NGAUS GENERAL CONFERENCE MAY BE THE ONE YOU NEED TO ATTEND

Annually we remind our membership of the upcoming General Conference and stress that there is a very specific reason why we refer to our annual gathering as a conference as opposed to a convention. This is probably more true this year than in the recent past.

Still faced with many questions and few concrete solutions for a strong US military strategy, it is expected that our distinguished speakers will address these tenuous issues and how they relate them to the National Guard and the Total Force Policy. To say the Conference is a convention is an inefficient description of what is exchanged between our guest speakers and our membership. We do conduct very important business.

Our theme this year, "Mobilization: The Reason for Readiness," will allow our speakers to address the National Guard's long-standing commitment and dedication to the nation's defense in the face of national and local emergencies. This then allows us the opportunity to revisit the most significant of all the National Guard mobilizations in our nation's history: the call-up of the National Guard for World War II.

By doing this, there is no better lead-in to what today's National Guard's continued commitment will be to the future of this nation in the face of the changing military strategy. Our members will hear from the likes of GEN Edwin Burba, commander-in-chief, US Forces Command, and Gen H.D. Johnson, commander-in-chief, Military Airlift Command and the Transportation Command. They are just two of the many speakers who have accepted our invitation to address the increasingly important National Guard audience.

One of the best features of the NGAUS General Conference is that each year it is hosted by a state association that lends its own unique flavor to the event. This year will be no different. We will be in Reno, Nevada, a city that claims to be the "Biggest

Little City in the World" and our hosts will be Maj Gen Drennan A. Clark and the Nevada National Guard Association. The three-day Conference, from October 1-3, 1990, will be headquartered in Bally's Hotel and Casino, with two other hotel-casinos in use to house the many conferees and their spouses who plan to attend. The state delegations will be transported to Bally's from the Peppermill Hotel and Casino and the Sands Hotel and Casino.

The full Conference schedule allows every conferee the opportunity to attend all the necessary meetings and business sessions, as well as meet with other Guard members nationwide. Our National Guard family continues to grow as the industrial exhibits will be officially opened the Sunday prior to the beginning of the Conference. More than 100 military and industry exhibitors will have their wares on display in the Grand Ballroom and Goldwyn Pavilion.

The First Business Session will open Monday morning, October 1, at 8 a.m. in Bally's. We will again experience the unique flavor of each state during the roll call of the states. The President's Recognition Awards Luncheon (PRAL) immediately follows the close of that session. We will continue the lead from last year's Conference, where only the individual awards will be presented during the luncheon. The unit awards will be presented during the separate Army and Air National Guard sessions.

This being an election year, in conjunction with the many task force and committee meeting requirements, the first afternoon of the Conference is dedicated to completing "Association business." The task force and committees will convene their meetings that afternoon, except the Resolutions Committee, which meets early Sunday afternoon and Monday morning. The Area II and Area V caucuses will meet to select their slate of representatives for the Executive Council. Of course, the Nominations Commit-

tee will receive the caucus nominations and combine those with the slate of officers for the Conference vote. Also very early in the Conference, delegations will be asked to vote on amendments to the NGAUS By-laws.

At the outset of my two-year term as your president, I pledged to pursue several issues that I believe are critical to seeing our Association grow as part of the many ongoing improvements and changes to this Association needed to carry us into the next century. I urge each member who plans to attend the Conference to seek out these By-law amendments and read them carefully. Do not brush them aside or take them lightly. In a future column, before the upcoming Conference, I will fully express to you my views on the proposed changes and the need for our Association to adopt the amendments into our By-laws.

The remainder of the business sessions will be conducted on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 2-3. During the Fourth Business Session on Wednesday morning, the delegates will adopt those resolutions we as an Association believe are needed to achieve a strong national defense through the presence of a strong National Guard within the Total Force.

We also will present the Harry S Truman Award, our Association's highest honor, to a distinguished American at the States Dinner. We will also recognize those Legion de Lafayette recipients for their dedication to the preservation of National Guard history.

We encourage all of our members to attend a General Conference to learn firsthand what this Association does nationally to improve the national defense posture through the presence of a strong National Guard. It is here that we let it be known that we must provide united representation before Congress, just as our forefathers outlined at the first General Conference 112 years ago in St. Louis, Missouri.

National Guard

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MG Charles M. Kiefner, president of the National Guard Association of the United States, has planned a three-day program full of dynamic speakers for the 112th NGAUS General Conference, scheduled for October 1-3 in Reno, Nevada.

Lt Gen Conaway Discusses the Guards Future in the '90s 18

Having completed his first three months as the chief of the National Guard Bureau, Lt Gen John B. Conaway discusses his plans for the National Guard and the future of the Guard into the 1990s and beyond.

Bringing Refuelers to the Front Lines 24

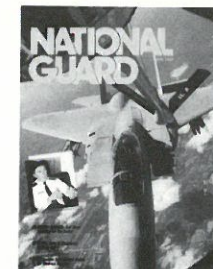
Exercise SENTRY BOOMER is one example of cutting costs at the lower echelons, while providing valuable training on previously underdeveloped tactics. Conducted at Volk Field, Wisconsin, the exercise brought together aircraft and personnel from almost every service to practice refueling maneuvers near simulated combat zones.

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Receiving Phone Calls From MARS 34

The Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) provides emergency communications for the Army by integrating the use of military signal towers and civilian communications networks. MARS was founded in 1925 and its existence shares many of the same characteristics as the National Guard.



COVER:

An F-15 Eagle refuels from an Illinois Air National Guard KC-135, 126th Air Refueling Wing, Chicago, during a SENTRY BOOMER mission. Photo, TSgt Lawrence Lensmith. Inset, Lt Gen John B. Conaway discusses National Guard issues. Design, Johnson Design Group.

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