

MG Robert F. Ensslin Jr., President, NGAUS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MAKE PLANS NOW FOR THE 113TH NGAUS CONFERENCE

Exactly 20 years ago, the NGAUS conducted its General Conference in Honolulu. For some, 20 years is a military career. However, for those who either attended the 1971 Conference or talked with those who did that year, they will recall what a memorable time that was.

States chartered entire jumbo-jets to go to Honolulu that year. Many people mixed business with pleasure by going early and staying late to visit the outer islands and absorb the unique atmosphere that our 50th state offers.

Little has changed about much of this today, as we make final plans for the 113th General Conference, September 4-6. True, most folks will be flying on scheduled commercial flights this time compared with chartered aircraft; that seems to be the cheaper way to go in 1991. And we will be headquartered at a different complex of hotels than in 1971; the Sheraton Waikiki wasn't even built 20 years ago.

Of course, you can tell from that comment that the Conference will be concentrated on Waikiki Beach, perhaps one of the most spectacular tourist attractions in the world. And, as always, the female attendees will be welcomed with a lei, flowers being one of the principal attributes of the Hawaiian Islands.

In addition to the obvious attractions of perhaps making a once-in-a-lifetime trip to the central Pacific (Honolulu is nearly as close to Tokyo as it is to San Francisco), the 113th General Conference is shaping up as an important event in its own right. We have confirmations on a number of outstanding speakers. We also will conduct the NGAUS' business in the afterglow of the Persian Gulf War and the outstanding contributions in that conflict by the Army and Air National Guard.

Already confirmed as speakers are the chief of staff of the Air Force, Gen Merrill A. (Tony) McPeak; and Senator Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii), chairman of the defense subcommittee of the Sen-

ate Appropriations Committee. Senator Inouye will be the recipient of the Association's highest award, the Harry S Truman Award.

For some of the rest of our invited speakers, it is almost as if we had planned for the administration's "base-force" strategy. We decided early that since we were to be in the Pacific, it would be timely to hear from some of the Pacific Theater commanders and senior leaders. So that will be the bulk of the rest of the speaking invitations.

The base force strategy, for those who haven't heard of it yet, envisions an Atlantic Command, a Pacific Command, a contingency force and a strategic (nuclear missile primarily) force replacing the current eight unified commanders.

Attendees at this year's Conference also will get a taste of what it is like to be between the East and the West. In the United States, we get very used to working in the Eurocentric mode. Hawaii, of course, is a part of the Pacific Rim, which begins at San Diego and runs north, west and then south to Hong Kong. In many ways, it is more Asian than anything else. It definitely is a polyglot of cultures, racial mixtures and Asian cultural influences of many kinds. One quickly finds that there are relatively few pure Hawaiians anymore.

However, there is a considerable residual presence of the Hawaiian royal family, which "ruled" until nearly 1900. For those who don't know it, the wife of the adjutant general of Hawaii until he retired last January, Mrs. Alexis Lum, is a very senior member of this family.

An aspect of studying the influence of the royal family will be the spouses tour and luncheon at the Bishop Museum. This museum, endowed by the royal family, displays much of the history of the islands.

Many know, as well, that the Hawaiian Islands are very volcanic, having been created by tens of thousands of

years of volcanic eruptions from the floor of the Pacific Ocean. Volcanoes are still active on the Big Island of Hawaii, the southeastern-most island currently. Some NGAUS members may wish to take one of the tours to the Big Island to see the volcano Kilauea if it is particularly active during the period we are in Hawaii. The Big Island presents the best study in dramatic contrasts on the islands, with a dry, volcanic side and its lush, tropical side, which is the home of Angel Falls, one of the world's most spectacular water falls.

Most will be amazed, too, at the architecture and construction everywhere in downtown Honolulu, where hotels have no doors in their lobbies and where the temperature is consistently nearly year-round: in the low 80s in the afternoon and the low 70s at night.

We will not fight the inevitable of the 113th General Conference. There will be three morning business sessions and very few official activities in the afternoon. With most referees staying within 100 yards of Waikiki Beach, we know when to render to the inevitable.

Some years ago, a colleague sent one of his subordinates to US Army Western Command for his annual training. The subordinate checked around and found out he could take his wife for a week of that AT period for around \$1,000 (it's a little more now, but not substantially). When he broke the news to his wife, she replied that she now understood all those nights of recruiting duty while he was a company commander; all those extra weekends when he was an operations officer; all those night state meetings; unexpected phone calls; dry when he got home from a weekend in the field or from annual training in a fully tactical mode.

She had a wonderful time, and so does he in a continuing Guard career. See you in Hawaii. Aloha.

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FEATURES

Training the Air Guard's Professionals 16

The Air National Guard's Professional Military Education Center (PMEC) is located at McGhee-Tyson ANGB, Tennessee. This includes the NCO Academy, the Leadership School and an Outreach Program. PMEC also runs the Academy of Military Science, which exists to produce new officers for the Air National Guard. It has come a long way since it was founded in 1968.

The Army Guard Prepares for the Future 20

Training the Army National Guard's full-timers is the mission of the Professional Education Center (PEC) based at Camp Robinson, Arkansas. Nearly 70,000 technicians and active Guard/Reserve personnel have completed courses at PEC during its 16 years of operation. PEC also sponsors many conferences, classes and meetings for other groups.

Air National Guard F-16s Come Home 24

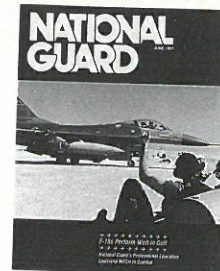
South Carolina's 169th Tactical Fighter Group and New York's 174th Tactical Fighter Wing were deployed to Saudi Arabia for Operation DESERT STORM. They were both part of the Air Force's 4th Tactical Fighter Wing (Provisional) based just south of Riyadh. The 169th flew 1,359 sorties and the 174th flew 1,053 during the air war.

Louisiana Medics Answer the Call 30

Members of the 159th Mobile Army Surgical Hospital (MASH), Louisiana Army National Guard, became part of the 341st Medical Group when deployed to Saudi Arabia and prepared to treat the wounded in the Persian Gulf War. It followed ground troops into Iraq at the start of the ground war and prepared for the worst, which did not come.

The War of 1812 Revisited 38

Marylanders, in general, opposed the War of 1812, except for the City of Baltimore. Being a port city, its commerce depended greatly on shipping and the impressment of American sailors severely hurt the city. It was the only time in history that the US capital had to be defended against foreign troops and it was done by the Maryland Militia.



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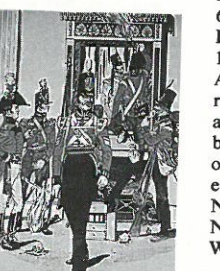
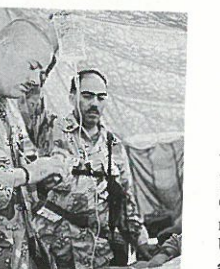
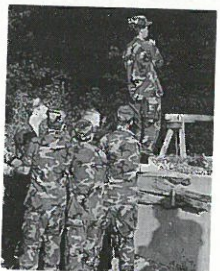
A South Carolina Air National Guard F-16 pilot gets the thumbs-up from the flightline crew as he readies for takeoff during the Persian Gulf War. South Carolina and New York Air Guard F-16 units were deployed to Saudi Arabia. Photo, MSgt John Luszc, NYANG. Design, Johnson Design Group.

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