

Maj Gen John L. Matthews, President NGAUS

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION

A new administration has arrived in town, and with President Bill Clinton comes a new team of leaders at the Department of Defense (DoD) and in the Army and Air Force secretariats. We welcome them, and we look forward to four productive years of working with them.

We say this because, if President Clinton follows through on the statements he made to the NGAUS General Conference in Salt Lake City last fall, we in the Guard should be able to concentrate on training and combat readiness rather than on fighting for the continued right to serve our country as patriotic Americans.

Most in the Guard would agree that the last four years were challenging. That we succeeded as well as we did is a tribute to your efforts and the tie to grass roots America that you represent. The effort to promote the base force strategy, and its corollary to cut the Army Guard to 321,000 by 1995, was relentlessly and untiringly pursued. Today, however, we find the Army Guard at 422,425 rather than on the proposed steep downward ramp. Thank you for your energy and commitment to telling the Guard's story to the members of Congress and to the American public.

President Clinton's appointment of Les Aspin as secretary of Defense suggests a different future. Although Secretary Aspin also recognizes further cuts are necessary, he has indicated in the past that the force mix under base force was outdated before it was seriously debated in the legislative branch. Also, when Secretary Aspin chaired the House Armed Services Committee, he adhered to the constitutional mandate that the Congress is responsible for raising and supporting armies.

We also want to remind you that, during the campaign, President Clinton's national security positions and platform planks were derived to some substantial extent from the work done

by Secretary Aspin and Senator Sam Nunn (D-Georgia), chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee. The Aspin and Nunn agendas, although somewhat different from each other, were complementary and a significant portion of each agenda made it into the FY93 Defense Authorization Act.

While at Salt Lake City, candidate Clinton pledged to maintain the National Guard as a predominantly combat arms force. Today, Secretary Aspin has staked out a similar position, although with a different spin. One of the reasons he said he was so insistent about his combat reform initiatives (a series of proposals that many oppose) was his conviction that the only way to garner support for the Guard containing combat arms units was to improve the combat readiness of Army Guard infantry and armored units by increasing their working relationship with the active Army. This coming year continues to promise challenges and hard work on all of our parts.

Now a few comments about the recently released Rand Study, mandated by the FY92 Defense Authorization Act. . . .

Done by the Rand Corporation on a DoD contract, the study was directed to look at the mix of the active components, the Guard and the reserves. One of our concerns, on preliminary review, is that the study seems to base conclusions on old information. The Army proposed a 20-division structure; our 10/10 proposal accepted the Army's number, but our mix saves \$1.5 billion annually. Rand proposes a 21-division army favoring the active component.

The Rand study also does not take into consideration the Guard's do-

mestic mission, amazingly, even during a time when Hurricane Andrew and the Los Angeles riots showed how important our response is to these domestic emergencies. Neither did the study fully account for the deployability, performance and combat readiness of National Guard units during the Persian Gulf War nor did it address the current improvement measures being made to our combat readiness, specifically, through the combat reform initiatives I mentioned earlier.

Although we have not, at this date, completed an in-depth analysis and while we do not agree with certain parts of the study, we do support the study's contention that more reliance could be placed on the Guard and Reserve. With sufficient support from the Army, a focus on the combat initiatives and proper resources, the National Guard can be ready in the time frame required by this nation. And we will work toward that end.

It is ironic that the news stories I have read about the Rand study talk about the Army's requirement to work more closely with the Guard to improve the readiness of the Guard—something we have been preaching for a long time. Regardless, now is the time to look through the windshield and not the rearview mirror. In our April edition of NATIONAL GUARD, this magazine will feature a full explanation of the Rand study.

The hard work you, our membership, have accomplished, and the support we have received from the governors and members of Congress, promises that, at a minimum, our views will be heard and considered. We believe our views will be given much more credence than backward-looking thinking and old views. This country needs to move forward with traditional elements like the National Guard to serve the American people.

National Guard

NATIONAL GUARD

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Volume XLVII, Number 3

FEATURES

The Arkansas' Razorbacks Lead the Way 16

The Arkansas Army and Air National Guard members took great pride in being key elements for the 52d Presidential Inaugural Ceremonies, along with Tennessee, Alaska, Delaware, the District of Columbia and the National Guard Bureau staff. Change of command ceremonies like these highlight the Guard's dual mission.

The Air Guard Delivers Relief and Hope 22

Gen Merrill McPeak, chief of staff of the Air Force, said it the best when the nation was enthralled with the mobilization of ground forces to Somalia to bring relief. "Our aircrews will say 'Welcome to the war.'" Air Guard units had been flying into Kenya and Somalia since last August.

Drawing the Bow in William Tell 26

Every two years, Total Air Force fighters flock to Tyndall AFB, Florida, to draw bead on enemy target drones to determine who is the best unit in the sky. This year's winner was an active Air Force unit out of Japan. But the Air Guard made an outstanding showing with the likes of Capt Duane J. Kautzmann, who was top shooter.

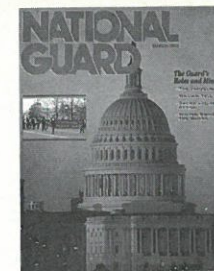
The Guard's Own Historical State Camps 30

Camp Mabry, Texas, was once the site of gathering citizens to see Sunday afternoon military maneuvers from a large grandstand. It brought the community and the Guard together once a month.

A Rough Winter Brings Out the Guard 32

Rain, snow or sleet—the mailman always delivers? Usually, it's the Guard member who has plowed the roads, dug out the abandoned vehicles and delivered food and water to ensure that the mailman can deliver the mail. Winter 1993 was not different from past winters.

March 1993



COVER:

The nation's Capitol glows at the outset of a new day and a new administration. The 188th Fighter Wing, Arkansas Air Guard, led the way for all at the inaugural ceremony. Tennessee's 129th Army Band (inset) played in honor of Vice President Al Gore. Photo, SrA Mark Borosch, U.S.A.F. Design by Johnson Design Group.

DEPARTMENTS

President's Message	2
Washington Tie-Lines	4
Views From the Field	6
Guard Stars	9
Capital Focus	10
Newsbreaks	12
Leading Edge	35
People	37
Posting	38
Notebook	42

PUBLICATION STAFF

- MG Robert F. Ensslin Jr. (ret.)
Publisher
- CPT Victor Dubina (ret.)
Director of Communications
- CPT Pamela A. Kane
Executive Editor
- Maj Jean Marie Beall
Assistant Editor/Features
- Ms. Belinda L. Reilly
Assistant Editor/Production
- COL John C. Philbrick (ret.)
Advertising Sales
- M. Catherine Privat
Controller

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