



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### GUARDSMEN MUST BE PROFESSIONAL SOLDIERS

From the sniping on the road to Concord to the battle at Breed's Hill and the fighting in the hedgerows behind the Normandy beaches, citizen-soldiers have responded to our nation's call. In times of peace, our state militias have remained quietly tucked away—out of sight and out of mind—in the far recesses of our states' hills, fields and towns, there to be nearly forgotten until once again called upon to defend liberty and our nation's values. In every historical instance, our call to federal service was a difficult, almost traumatic experience because our men, equipment and training had been allowed to languish in the security of inner America. Today, this is no longer the case.

A retired Guardsman of just five years probably would not recognize the National Guard today. We are being equipped with the most sophisticated and modern weapons systems available and manned by increasing numbers of full-time Guardsmen. Guard units are training longer, more often, on mission-oriented tasks at prime training sites both overseas and around the continental United States (CONUS). The National Guard has become an important part of the Total Force Policy and, indeed, some Guard units will deploy and fight earlier than their active component counterparts. This commitment to increased readiness has placed unusual demands on National Guard units as military organizations with specified deployment missions and on National Guardsmen as private citizens who also must be professional soldiers.

"Professional soldiers?" Absolutely! Even though our neighbors recognize us as the local druggist, farmers, insurance agents, a banker, or computer programmer.

We have occasions, usually unfortunate state or local circumstances, when our units or individuals are called upon to display their technical, professional capabilities. This past

spring, for example, the North Carolina National Guard responded to calls for assistance due to serious injuries and damages caused by a series of devastating tornadoes throughout the eastern portion of that state. The men and women of the units involved performed magnificently, often heroically, in efforts that saved lives and helped minimize property loss and damage.

This Guard "involvement" is the kind we're noted for and, quite correctly, are expected to perform. The evolution of the Total Force Policy, however, and the National Guard's high priority position within that Total Force has caused a dramatic expansion in both the likelihood and the scope of our potential federal missions. Today, if our active Army and Air Force deploy, we have no choice but to be professional soldiers and airmen.

Most professional soldiers, certainly those in the active components, sacrifice their daily involvement in their home communities to meet the worldwide peacetime commitment of national military service. In a 20- to 30-year military career, an active soldier or airman may relocate his family 10 or 15 times, living overseas as well as throughout America. Although these travels may sometimes sound exciting, even exotic, that professional soldier loses something precious, something very meaningful in all of our lives, something that once lost requires years to regain—he loses a sense of community belonging.

Faced with his new mobility in our society and our Total Force requirements to be professional soldiers, our states' Guards are in danger of losing that precious commodity—a sense of community belonging—which has been our strength throughout our proud history.

A strong community relationship has been peculiar to our National Guard for many decades. We must

make an extraordinary effort now, before it is too late, to nurture and preserve that unique relationship. As Guard units and individual Guardsmen, we must emerge from those quiet fields, hills and towns where we have traditionally hidden and been forgotten in peacetime. We must assume a stabilizing role within our ever changing communities and, as both individuals and units, provide the leadership, the continuity, the rallying point around which our communities revolve.

Continuing our fine, professional assistance to our communities during emergencies or disasters is certainly one way to do that, but it is no longer enough. We must become concerned and involved, officially, formally and effectively, as National Guard units and individual Guardsmen. Often you are the only "soldiers" with whom that community has any direct contact.

Let your military professionalism shine before your community members, but be more than just the professional soldier who may deploy to fight our nation's battles. Be involved as leaders in your local community activities.

Your unit may be the largest, if not the only, true "organization" in that community. Take advantage of that formal organization for the daily betterment of the community by officially becoming involved in community functions.

Guard unit commanders and all unit members should seek every opportunity to proudly wear their uniforms and speak at community gatherings. Get involved, as Guardsmen, with neighbors and community leaders about the military, about our country and about your community.

Because the Guard belongs, you owe "involvement" to yourselves, your National Guard, your country and your community.

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## Features

### 12 WHAT IS THE NAVY NATIONAL GUARD?

Indeed, there is one state with a federally recognized Naval Militia (New York). And there are a few other states that continue an old tradition of having a naval militia in addition to the better known Army and Air National Guard.

### 16 VOLANT SCORPION TESTS AIR GUARD POLICE

Little did the Ohio Air National Guardsmen know what awaited them when they left their friendly Air Guard base for a rigorous two weeks in the field, training more like infantrymen.

### 24 35th INFANTRY DIVISION REBORN IN THE MIDWEST

The flag was raised at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, as the 35th Infantry Division (Mech), with units in five states, was reborn after a slumber of 16 years. Units will be in Colorado, Kansas, Kentucky, Missouri and Nebraska.

### 28 THE WORK HORSE OF LIGHT OBSERVATION HELICOPTERS

The OH-6 "Cayuse" is the workhorse of the Army National Guard's observation helicopter fleet, and although procured years ago, remains a reliable, maintainable, sustainable asset for years to come.

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COVER: Pfc. Jeff Schnurrenberger, on the cover, was one of three National Guardsmen to participate in the Los Angeles Olympics, he in the kayaking event. Providing support, particularly security and aviation, were 700 members of the California National Guard, operating in various locations in Los Angeles. Design, Johnson Design Group.

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