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The President's Page

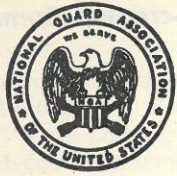
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THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN



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OUR COVER

An enemy pillbox can become an oven for its occupants. M/Sgt. Ray C. Smith of the Division Chemical Section here shows comrades of California's mobilized 40th Inf. Div. at Camp Cooke how it's done, with a combination of phosphorus hand grenade and flame thrower.

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JANUARY, 1951

Dear Guardsmen;

"Where's my copy of THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN?" We know some of you are asking that question . . . we can tell by the number of magazines being returned to us each month due to incorrect addresses (288 in one delivery!). Honestly, it's not all our fault. We're doing everything we can to improve the situation, but we need your help. So here's a little "check list" designed to make sure you get your magazine—and get it on time.

- 1) When you know you're going to have a change of address, let us know right away . . . a couple of weeks at least before you move. This gives us a chance to cut a new addressing machine stencil, and transfer your name to the coming month's "strip list" which then goes to the printing plant. By the time the list is received, envelopes addressed and the magazine printed and mailed, you'll be getting your mail (and THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN) at your new address.
- 2) Fill out change of address coupons or cards *completely*. Your former address is important.
- 3) Make sure you put down the correct Post Office . . . you'd be surprised to see how many *non-existent* Post Offices crop up. If you live in one State and make your drills in another—or your home town straddles the State line—this is an easy mistake to make.
- 4) Notify not only us of an address change, but your Post Office and your National Guard unit headquarters. This prevents us from carrying you at two different addresses. Remember, too, that a forwarding address isn't enough . . . the Post Office won't forward the magazine even though it may know your new location.
- 5) If you're not getting THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN—and think you should be—let us know right away and we'll try to track down the snafu. Otherwise we have no way of knowing we have a Guardsman who is unhappy because he's not getting his magazine.

Rush, rush, rush! We might as well be working against a daily newspaper's deadline, as a monthly magazine's. Here we were, with two days of high-level Policy Committee meetings ending at 1:30 of a Sunday afternoon, thousands of words of discussion to be summarized in a reasonably terse story, no chow since 7:30 a.m., and a 6:30 p.m. train to catch with the object in view of bedding-down your January issue the following morning.

Strange as it may seem, we got the dinner, wrote the story, caught the train, made the deadline. No wonder we don't get fat!

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