



A MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT



WESTERN UNION
SENDING BLANK

CALL LETTERS HFD DAY LETTER CHARGE TO NATIONAL GUARD ASSN. OF THE U.S.

THE HONORABLE JOHN F. KENNEDY
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

The spirit of the Minuteman, of which you spoke yesterday and which was given birth in your native Commonwealth of Massachusetts and forged in the agony of our War for Independence, is preserved by the unselfish sacrifices of 500,000 Americans who serve in the Army National Guard and the Air National Guard. These Guardsmen are the direct descendants of Minutemen who drilled on village greens in every Colony, suffered at Valley Forge, died in the Green Mountains and on hundreds of other battlefields so many decades ago.

We in the National Guard recognize that this spirit of which you spoke springs from a real understanding of the responsibilities of citizenship and an awareness of the sacrifices that we must be prepared to make to secure our freedom. May the spirit of the Minuteman, as you have suggested, fire all of the people of this country and not just those of us who are prepared to take up arms in defense of our liberty.

I want to assure you that under your leadership as Commander in Chief, National Guardsmen rededicate themselves to fulfilling their assigned tasks as the first-line reserve of the United States Army and the United States Air Force. We shall do our part to spread the spirit of the Minuteman.

The National Guard Association of the United States proposes to erect on the grounds of the National Guard Memorial at One Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C., a Minuteman statue to commemorate the spirit that so inspired him. When the time comes for dedication of this statue, you would do great honor to the millions of citizens who have served in the Militia and the National Guard since Colonial times if you would consent to give the dedicatory address. With very best wishes.

WILLIAM H. HARRISON, JR.
Major General, MassARNG—Ret.
President, National Guard Association
of the United States.



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DEAR GUARDSMEN: A thousand or so of our members and subscribers might just as well be dead, so far as our getting their copies of THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN to them are concerned. They've disappeared into outer space—or somewhere.

It saddens our hearts to look at drawer after drawer full of address stencils that have to be held in "deep freeze" until we learn, somehow, where the addressees live. True, each one of them bears a street address, but the mailman has sent back their magazines for one of many reasons: the man's moved, left no address; there's no such street, or number, in his town; he's unknown at the address given, and so on.

AGs have been very helpful in helping us track-down many of these "lost" subscribers, but while they, and our Circulation Dept have been trying to find them, the subscribers have missed an issue or several issues of our magazine.

If you move, or are moving, be sure to tell us right away—don't depend on the Post Office to notify us. Give us both your old and your new address. And if you hear any of your comrades complain about not getting their magazine, ask them to let us know right away. We'd rather deliver magazines than stockpile "bad" address stencils. —AGC

OUR COVER: Appropriately personifying a blend of the old and the new in the National Guard, Cadets of the Massachusetts Military Academy proudly pass President John F Kennedy in his hours-long Inaugural Parade. The Guard's widespread, pace-setting State Officer Candidate School program stems from the Bay State Guard's Academy. (Story and more photos appear elsewhere in this issue. Cover pic by Sp5 Alan McMahon, 126 Sig Bn.)

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