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## CONTENTS

AN OPEN LETTER TO EVERY NATIONAL GUARD OFFICER . . . Inside Front Cover	
BIG SLAM/PUERTO PINE . . . . .	4
WASHINGTON REPORT . . . . .	10
INCIDENTALLY . . . . .	12
"OPERATION ICEBOX!" . . . . .	13
JANUARY-MARCH BRINGS 'BIG SWAP' TO ANG . . . . .	14
GUARD ARTILLERYMAN'S DEVICE DRAWS PRAISE . . . . .	15
CHICAGOANS WIN ARADCOM TROPHY . . . . .	16
PENTAGON PARAGRAPHS . . . . .	18
SCHOOL BELLS . . . . .	19
ANGELS IN MUDDY FATIGUES . . . . .	20
TECHNICAL AND TACTICAL . . . . .	23
POSTING THE GUARD . . . . .	24
FORT ORD TOO HOT FOR SCOUTS . . . . .	28
SOUND OFF . . . . .	32
PICTURE GALLERY . . . . . Inside Back Cover	

**DEAR GUARDSMEN:** At last, from three different sources as widely separated as Connecticut, Oregon, and Washington, DC, the Edward Martin Library in the National Guard Memorial has pieced-together one complete set of the "War of the Rebellion, Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies."

It took many years between the close of the Civil War and the Turn of the Century for these voluminous records to be compiled and published—all 128 of the fat volumes that conceal in their apparently dry, dusty pages all the elements of drama, tragedy, pathos and even humor that can be found in official orders, telegrams, messages, and maps recounting four years of strife out of which a Nation was reborn. They occupy 17½' of library shelving.

Librarian Hilda Costello conned the first incomplete set out of an official source which prudence dictates should be concealed—it was one of several on hand, and bindings on many of the volumes were in poor condition. Then, about a year ago, CWO Richard Potter of the ConnARNG and Maj Adam Nejako of the Conn State Guard Res arranged for donation of another partial set from the Mansfield Guard Veteran Corps in Middletown, Conn. And just a few weeks ago, Maj Gen Alfred E Hintz, Oregon AG and CG of the 41 Inf Div, brought with him in a C47 another incomplete set. That did the trick: out of the three, we've come up with one full set in "Excellent" to "Good" condition.

And may we remind: we're still scrounging old military books from anyone who's in a housecleaning mood. —AGC

**OUR COVER:** Hill AFB, Utah, and Salinas Training Center, Puerto Rico, are no further away—in point of time—than many a camp site was from the hometown armory in "the old days" of National Guard field training. Can it be that "BIG SLAM/PUERTO PINE," as recounted in this issue, is a mild forerunner of global training exercises for the Guardsman of tomorrow?

## NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

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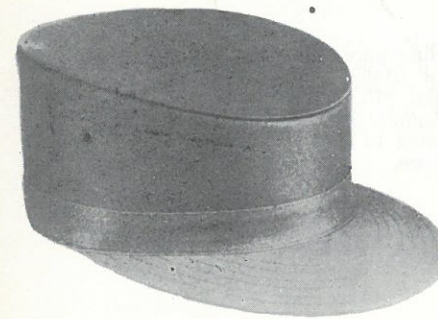
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