The President's Report

A condensation of the Report of Major General E. A. Walsh, as prepared for presentation to the 72nd General Conference of the National Guard Association of the United States.

AS THE National Guard Association of the United States meets for the seventy-second time in a General Conference in a free and orderly land under rather extraordinary circumstances in that approximately one-fifth of America's best men have been or have been called into the active military service of the United States or have been alerted for such service. The members of the Conference have been asked whether or not additional units will be ordered into the active military service of the United States and how mobilization resulting from the Korean emergency has brought in its wake, numerous problems for the National Guard and the other reserve components of the Armed Forces as well, but the very uncertainty of the moment has brought additional problems. We hope that during the course of this Conference, we might be the answer by high officials of the Department of Defense of the United States and we might be the answer by high officials of the Department of Defense of the United States, with assurance that such a force would be utilized. Furthermore, common sense dictated that serious thought be given the problem of the National Guard and other reserve components of the Armed Forces as well, with assurance that such a force would be utilized. Furthermore, common sense dictated that serious thought be given the problem of the National Guard and other reserve components of the Armed Forces as well, with assurance that such a force would be utilized.

The Mobilization

Since the outbreak of hostilities in Korea, the National Guard Association has endeavored to keep the National Guard and other reserve components of the Armed Forces as well, with assurance that such a force would be utilized. Furthermore, common sense dictated that serious thought be given the problem of the National Guard and other reserve components of the Armed Forces as well, with assurance that such a force would be utilized.

Air National Guard Status

It was evident that the position of the Air National Guard be definitely determined. On 19th July, I was invited to attend a conference with the Air Staff of the United States Air Force, at which time I was asked some very pertinent questions pertaining to the Air National Guard and its possible utilization. In substance it was indicated that the Air National Guard did not seek to obtain a preferred seat on the Air National Guard Reserve list, but that it pressed its place in the defense structure be maintained. Among the several important matters discussed was the matter of priority between the Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserve and what would be the effect if elements of the Air Force Reserve were ordered to active duty ahead of the Air National Guard or in lieu thereof. It was my contentions that we did not view the Korean episode as our own private affair and that so long as the Department of the Air Force acted in good faith and with the best interest of the Air National Guard, we would not object to the ordering up of units of the Air Force Reserve along with units of the Air National Guard, but we would insist that the spirit and intent of the National Defense Act be adhered to in the utilization of the Air National Guard. The conference concluded without any indication on the part of the Air Staff as to the utilization of the Air National Guard.

Since 19th July, there have been a number of developments in the Department of the Air Force and the United States Air Force and notably where CONAC was concerned. It appears not to have been to our liking, and certainly not to the liking of the Air National Guard. In my opinion the Air Staff of the Department of the Air Force has not dealt with the subject. (Page 28)

Dear Guardsmen:

This is a hard column to write this month. We have been starting at a blank piece of paper in our typewriter, trying to get ideas and finally decided that the only way to do it was to just put down the thoughts as they occurred.

The reason for the difficulty is that Ed Hogan has been clearing three years' accumulation of junk out of his desk, getting ready to say his final farewells and take off for New York—probably more adventurous experiences. By the time you read this he has gone to a new reporting job, with the heartfelt wishes of all of us.

The little, sharp-witted Air Guardan was one of the "mystery men" of our staff. A few handwritten Guardians if ever there was one, Ed has contributed immemorably to the General Correspondence. Have you read them over the years?

You can bet your bottom dollar that if Ed, in his search for stories, turns up in Korea or Germany, or wherever, he'll still be giving space-time information courses on the subject of the National Guard, to all who'll listen.

We're mighty pleased to have a very capable replacement lined-up. We'll tell you more about him next month.

It's nice to see that ex-Infantry Commander Olaf E. Teague, now a U. S. Representative from Texas, thought enough of Air Guard which he served in the Army to write "Battle's A Better Break" (Aug. and Sept. 1950) that he had the whole article reprinted in The Congressional Record. The reprint occupies nearly five pages of the issue of Oct. 15.

The girls in the back room still are running strip lists for the supplemental mailing of our October issue, and here we are, sending down the printing. Sometimes it seems as though the tail is catching up with the dog.

It's a pretty long pipeline between receipt of your order, and the mailing of your magazine. Numerous items are involved. Receiving, inspection, preparation of an envelope, address全套 card, cutting of an address sticker, sticking the sticker; filling out the envelope with your name, mailing the envelope; stuffing the labels in envelopes, stuffing the envelopes, and finally, turning them over to Uncle Sam.

Our Cover

They're "in the Army now," these men of the 43rd Field Artillery, stationed in Germany, in a time when no one expects to see a war. Containing a 7.62mm recoilless howitzer at Camp Pickett, Va., under the eyes of General Mark Clark, Chief, Army Field Forces, that's Sgt. Lory MacKinnon of Winnetka, Ill., superintending the work of a group of young, talented, bright men. Donald Salzberg of New Hartford (Armed Forces). (Page 30)

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