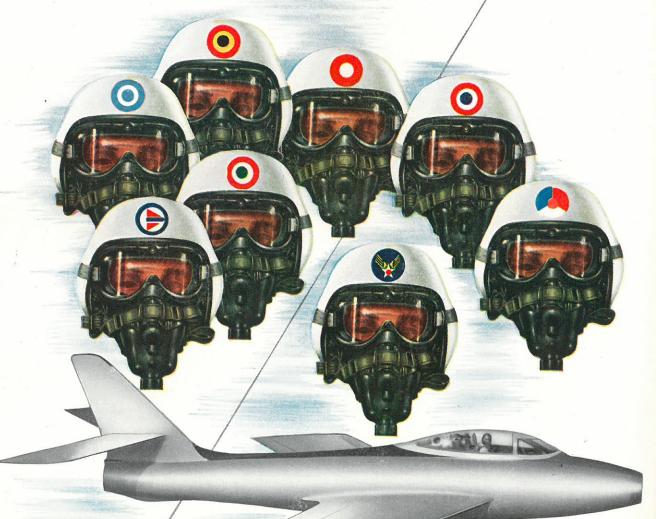
SECRET WEADON ..



Men born to the glory of freedom are uncompromising when this estate is threatened. Their character and purpose are the real "secret weapons" of democracy. The helmet insignias identify diverse nationalities, but the pilots behind these masks are united in their determination to defend independence. It is for these trained men who form our first line of defense, that Republic is scheduled to deliver the swept-wing F-84F THUNDERSTREAK to the USAF and our allies in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

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THE

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dear guardsmen:

Few things go so far toward raising Editors' morale as letters such as we received recently from opposite Coasts and the great Mid-West.

Capt Jack A Magney of Hq, 161 Inf, Spokane, Wash, sent us a batch of bulk subscriptions for the EM of that outfit, noting that "the interesting stories and pictures" in The National Guardsman "will be very valuable as 'sales material' for our recruiting teams."

1st Lt Andrew J Moynihan, CO of Massachusetts' State Hq Det, sent us individual subscriptions for 61 of his men who want The National Guardsman delivered to their homes (making 100% of his men individual subscribers). He volunteered this comment:

"It is the invaluable information contained in The NATIONAL GUARDSMAN that has sold every man of this detachment on subscribing, and not a sales talk by any officer of the detachment."

Iowa's Adjt Gen Fred Tandy let us know the subscriptions for approximately 2,000 of his Guardsmen were being renewed for another year, "as we believe it had a very fine effect on enlistments."

By their numerically impressive contributions to our enlisted circulation total, it's evident that the same conviction prevails in many other States as well.

We're pleased on two counts: naturally, it's nice to boost circulation, and besides, it's good to have confirmation of our belief that The National Guardsman stimulates interest among the enlisted men and helps recruiting. After all, that's one of our missions.

THE STAFF

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our cover

Under simulated combat conditions, the 386 Armd Engr Bn, of Texas' 49 Armd Div, gives demonstration of bridge-building on Ft Hood's maneuver area, as smoke keeps the operation under cover. Helicopter (lower left) was used by the 111 Med Bn in demonstrating evacuation of casualties.