compelled to sound the warning that the concept of voluntary military service to State and Nation, a principle which has been preserved by the National Guard since Colonial days, is in jeopardy. Too few of our young men will volunteer for military service purely out of patriotic motivation. As Gen Hershey will tell you, a very small percentage of young men today are being called upon to serve in the military service. It is, indeed, as National Guard officers, and indeed we must succeed in this effort if we are to continue to be a strong and vital force, to convince the young men of America that the principle of voluntary military service and training in times of peace is as important today as it was to our forefathers.

I am concerned that certain policies of the Dept. of Defense in matters of military service are such that they place reliance upon too many young officers. It is a requirement for double service, but upon the vast majority a call for no service at all. As an immediate address to that particular provision which requires that a man who serves two or three years of active duty shall continue to be required to serve in the Ready Reserve for a specified period after completing his active duty, while so many of his friends and neighbors are not called upon to serve for any length of time. If we are to achieve our objectives involved, there is serious doubt in many minds of the wisdom of giving too much training to too few at the expense of no training for a great many.

As we must continue to be concerned with the enlistment of young Americans in the Army and Air National Guard— and I might add at this point that my emphasis on young men must not encourage any efforts in the enlistment of men who have had prior military experience— we must also give attention to the matter of developing leadership for our organizations. I have cited in the Reserve Officer Personnel Act, as amended in this past session of the Congress, which, as its basic premise the orderly progression of a young man from the enlisted ranks to higher duty positions. Because of those provisions and certain natural restrictions which apply particularly to the Army National Guard, it will be necessary that we keep an adequate and continuous flow of qualified young officers into the system. It is very fortunate that nearly every state unit has列入 Reserve Officers who are committed to a reserve career. In Texas, for example, the number of reserve officers is growing rapidly. Because of those arrivals and the many natural restrictions which apply particularly to the Army National Guard, it will be necessary that we keep an adequate and continuous flow of qualified young officers into the system. It is very fortunate that nearly every State unit has列入 Reserve Officers who are committed to a reserve career. In Texas, for example, the number of reserve officers is growing rapidly. Because of those arrivals and the many natural restrictions which apply particularly to the Army National Guard, it will be necessary that we keep an adequate and continuous flow of qualified young officers into the system.

There is no doubt that the Army, in establishing new concepts and the need for obtaining the best qualified men, is in the process of attempting to assign priorities to organizations of the Army Reserve, which is rightly and by law are reserved to the organizations of the Army National Guard. The reason for the law is a matter of record, and it is perhaps a matter of law which is the Secretary of the Army with regard to this particular bill and the Senate Armed Services Committee are in the process of trying to assign certain organizations of the Army Reserve higher mobility priorities than other organizations of the Army National Guard. As a matter of fact, this is a matter of tremendous importance, has been considered also by the Army Combat Staff Committee on National Guard and Reserve Policy.

The Guard's recovery role

Something more than a year ago, the Conference Advisory Committee on National Guard of the Conference of State United States Governors, the Chairman of which was Gov Emory Vandeventer of Georgia, who is well known to most of us from the days when he served with such distinction as the Adjutant General of that State, called attention to the fact that the mobility of the Guard in the defense program. This failure, he contended, was the lack of planning for recovery of the Guard in the event of an emergency, a problem which has been neglected by the National Guard Association in this area of defense. There was an assumption that the National Guard would be sufficient for this purpose.

DEAR GUARDSMEN: "Goodbye dear, I'll be home in a year," was the theme song 20 years ago for the 56th Army Guard Battalion. The "phony war" had turned out to be very real, and Congress had authorized mobilization of the Guard and reserves for a year, enacted Selective Service for a one-year period.

Training that summer, there wasn't enough equipment (pipe-stove "mortars", coal tank "tanks", in that Summer's maneuvers had awakened the public to the low thrum on our defenses); units were at peacetime strength and the draft was just beginning to supply the mid-days of this National Guard units were phased-in from Sep 1940 to the Spring of 41. They doubled the Army's strength, provided an enlisted tanks tens of thousands of new officers, excelled hundreds of new units.

Five years later, Scovy of War Robert F. Patterson declared: "The soldiers of the Guard fought in every action in which the Army participated from Bataan to Okinawa. They proved once more the value of the trained citizen-soldier."

The campaign-battered doughboys on our front cover, it seems to us, epitomize the feeling of the pre-mobilization maneuverists of 1940, and the intensified training which followed mobilization.

By the way: this issue was being put to bed before the NGA's 82nd General Conference started, though it didn't reach you until after it ended. Through coverage of the Honolulu "chins" will be in our December issue...