The President's Page

The SEVENTY-THIRD GENERAL CONFERENCE OF 1951

WITNESS the endless round of hearings and discussions required by the heavy legislative program and problems arising out of the partial mobilization imposed by the Korean emergency, the president of the Conference was busy during the latter part of the General Conference of the United States, to be held at the Mayflower Hotel in Washington, 22-24 October.

In this connection, the 1951 General Conference would have been held at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York on the dates indicated, instead of in Washington. It is most regrettable that this change had to be made, for the Command and Staff of the New York National Guard had made arrangements whereby the General Conference would indeed have been outstanding and constituted a new high-water mark in Assemblies.

Because of limitations of hotel accommodations and meeting place facilities, it again has been necessary to streamline the conference by limiting the number of accredited Delegates to a total of 450.

Because of the many problems which have arisen as a result of the partial mobilization and, notably, in connection with the matter of replacements under the Rotation Policy, the breaking up of a considerable number of Air National Guard units and, in addition, considerations incident to the legislation of major importance, it has been deemed advisable to confine the number of speakers to the minimum.

The attention of every report is invited to the fact that the triennial term of all officers will expire on October 24, in accordance with the provisions of Constitution of the Association, and the terms of the Members of the Executive Council from the Second Section and the First Armed Area of the First National Guard. The officers of the Air Force will also expire at the time indicated. Recommendations for the election of their successors will be made by the Conference Committee on Nominations as provided in the Constitution of the Association. Each State, Territory and the District of Columbia is entitled to one Member on the Conference Committee on Nominations as well as the Committees on Resolutions and Time and Place. Selection of members of the Executive Council will be made at the Caucus of the Army Areas and the number of Air Force concern.

Since there is but brief time remaining before the General Conference is called to order at 10:00 a.m. on October 22, it is essential that all States, Territories and the District of Columbia transmit to the Association Headquarters, without delay, the required lists of Delegates and Officers. In connection with the organization of the Conference, it is requested that, insofar as possible, each of the States, Territories and the District of Columbia forward to the Association Headquarters in advance of the General Conference all memberships which have been received, and that every effort be made to make all concerned 100% insofar as circumstances permit.

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As We See It Inside Back Cover

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Dear Guardsmen,

The paratroopers started it. It probably began when some newspaperman, in a fit of self-righteousness, penned a chunk out of his 'chute and tucked it around his neck. Purply utilitarian in origin, maybe; nevertheless, others quickly picked it up. Looked pretty, snappy, too.

Anyway, first thing you know, whole regiments swamped in scarlet, a spontaneous, wholesome addition to the uniform. They provided just the right touch of color-relief for the somber Shade 38.

The interest in the new paratrooper uniforms got back to the Continental United States. One place where it's especially noticeable is in V.I.P.-crowded Washington. Whenever the troops are advised to "Back up"—as they often do—for some visiting Big Wheel, there's really color in the parade and the ceremony, now. The M Adm. Cav. Regt. (L) comes over from nearby Ft. Mende, extra-snap in yellow scarves. The 2d Inf. naturally wears light blue. The Enginiers from Ft. Belvoir make a splash in scarlet. Til Uncle Sugar took 'em away, the D.C. National Guard's two M. P. battalions, the 16th and 171st, marched in greens.

There's no question but that the scarves give an element of flash to a uniform that sadly has lacked a bright spot ever since the disappearance of the old-time blue, with piping in the color of the wearer's Arm of Service.

We've been mulling-over some ideas along these lines, and unit commanders may be hearing more from us about it one of these days soon.

Our Cover

Proof that anything can happen and often does in wartime, is the cover picture showing 494th of the 116th on the way to Washington, C. D., from the Air National Guard pilots ever expected to see them: on the flight deck of the USS Carrier St. Louis Bay. It was one of two carriers and one transport that completed the California, Florida and Georgia Guardensmen to Japan to load and unload the carriers, and maintenance personnel made daily inspections to minimize the possibility of their Thunderjets rusting away. In case you're wondering: no, they didn't make carrier deck takings and landings (USAF Photo).