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## Roles and Missions

**I**N December, I called on the Secretary of Defense and discussed with him certain matters that were of deep concern to the Army National Guard. Chief among these was the future of the Reinforcing Reserve elements of the Army National Guard. Priorities in administration, training, and equipping had been assigned to those organizations categorized as Immediate Reserve, and it appeared that support of units in the lower priority Reinforcing Reserve might diminish to the point where effective training no longer could be carried on.

My objective was to convince the Secretary that the United States must continue to support an adequate Reserve Force and that this included the *whole* Army National Guard.

I proposed to the Secretary that the National Guard Association, representing the National Guard of every State, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia, be permitted to make a detailed study, logical and objective, of the Army's General Purpose Forces, with emphasis on the role of the Army National Guard as an essential part of those forces.

The objective of the study was two-fold: to restudy the whole field of roles and missions with a view to convincing the Secretary that the entire Army National Guard should continue to receive adequate support, and to develop a program that would insure an equitable distribution of Immediate Reserve organizations among all the States.

A Special Committee on Roles and Missions, headed by Major General Frederick A. Daugherty, Commanding General of the 45th Infantry Division of Oklahoma, considered the problem for several months and prepared a report, including a recommendation that certain adjustments be made in the allocation of Immediate Reserve elements of the Army Guard. At a followup meeting with the Secretary on 12 August, I presented this report, and the Committee's recommendations.

Essentially, the Committee strongly recommended that adequate support continue to be given to units of the Reinforcing Reserve, to provide sufficient backup for the Army's 22-Division Force. It reiterated an oft-made declaration that the United States should continue to maintain a Reserve Force in depth.

In general, Committee recommendations called for allocating at least one Immediate Reserve Brigade to each of the Army National Guard's 23 Divisions. Under this proposal, the six Immediate Reserve Divisions of the Army National Guard, currently assigned as part of the deployable 22-Division Force, would continue to maintain their Division Base and one Brigade as Immediate Reserve. Other Immediate Reserve Brigades would be allocated to the Reinforcing Reserve Divisions, one to each Division. Upon mobilization, each of the present high priority Divisions thus could provide a Division Base, and command structure, and one Brigade, at 100% strength and equipment. Each of the lower priority Divisions would be required to turn out one Immediate Reserve Brigade, also at 100%, to round-out the Immediate Reserve Divisions upon mobilization. For Reinforcing Divisions which might thus be deprived of a Brigade as the result of a partial or complete mobilization, important follow-up missions have been proposed.

The plan also calls for continuance of an adequate level of support for all 23 Divisions, including the two Special Mission Divisions.

The Secretary directed that a detailed study be made of the Committee recommendations. The study is currently being made at Department of Defense and Department of Army levels.

The proposal will be submitted in detail to State Adjutants General at a special meeting to be held during the Association's 86th General Conference in Detroit.



# GUARDSMAN

*The National*

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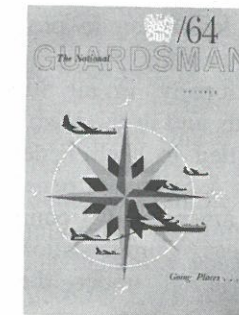
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OCTOBER, 1964

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