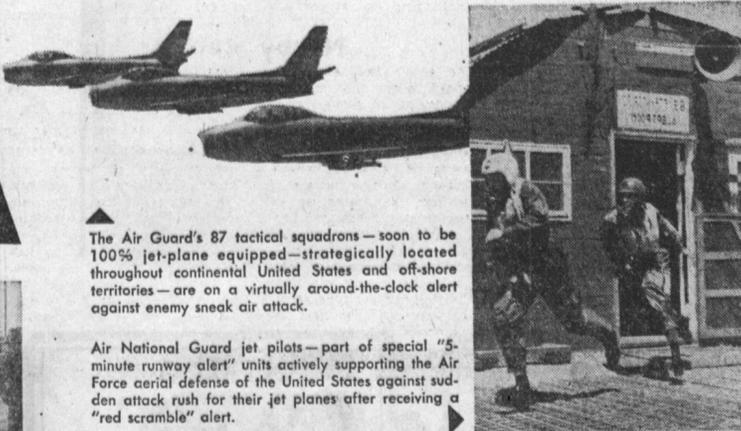




Your NATIONAL GUARD

America's oldest military organization, the National Guard, has served in war and in peace for over 300 years. Our country's strongest and most ready reserve, the National Guard — on the ground and in the air — consists of more than 5,700 organized, equipped and Federally recognized units with a strength of nearly 400,000 officers and enlisted men. Units are located in more than 2,200 communities in the 48 states, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and Alaska.

National Guardsmen have served our country with honor and distinction in every emergency from pre-Revolutionary War days to the present day — played a vital role in World Wars I and II and in Korea. Above, members of Alexander Hamilton's Company of New York Artillery in action at the Battle of Trenton in the bitter winter of 1776.



The Air Guard's 87 tactical squadrons — soon to be 100% jet-plane equipped — strategically located throughout continental United States and off-shore territories — are on a virtually around-the-clock alert against enemy sneak air attack.

Air National Guard jet pilots — part of special "5-minute runway alert" units actively supporting the Air Force aerial defense of the United States against sudden attack rush for their jet planes after receiving a "red scramble" alert.



National Guard training is not limited to armory and field training. Guardsmen attend all active Army and Air Force schools, including over 200 special courses, also state and unit schools. These AAA officers of Florida's National Guard receive intensive practical instruction during a recent two-day Staff Officers Conference.



Men of a National Guard antiaircraft artillery battalion prepare to fire a 90-mm "sky sweeper" gun against a target plane during recent summer field training. National Guard AAA units are participating in a round-the-clock "on site" mission of defending America's major production and population centers against sneak aerial attack with these guns and larger 120-mm "stratosphere" artillery.



National Guard tankmen, part of the Guard's powerful armored forces, get a National Guard tank set for combat during a recent field encampment mission. The National Guard troop basis includes 5 armored divisions, 22 infantry divisions, 9 regimental combat teams, 9 armored cavalry regiments, 123 antiaircraft artillery battalions and 74 field artillery battalions.



Hawaiian National Guardsmen, cannoners of 483rd Field Artillery Battalion, load howitzer for high angle fire mission over a 3000 feet mountain to hit target, during 15 day summer-field training exercise.



On the ground and in the Air, the Alaska National Guard and Air National Guard help defend America's strategic far North territory against possible aggression. Above, men of the Alaska Guard's two Eskimo Scout Battalions, only troops of their kind in our armed forces, study the terrain before breaking up into infantry patrols, during a simulated combat problem.



Among the American troops which marched triumphantly down Champs Elysees, Paris in World War II were thousands of National Guardsmen.



The National Guard serves in peace as well as in war, since 1946 participated in more than 500 rescue or relief operations during local emergencies and national disasters. Above, a National Guardsman patrols a destroyed area after the local units took over following a tornado near Cleveland, Ohio.

