

READY THEN READY NOW



How the National Guard has been meeting the challenge in three centuries of service.

CE; SOLDIERS IN WAR...
ARD TRADITION GOES
IN THREE CENTURIES...

YEAR: 1636
PLACE:
TH COLONY,
CHUSETTS

VE
AS
ND

I DON'T HAVE TIME TO PLAY AT SOLDIERING. I'VE GOT TOO MUCH TO DO. IF THE INDIANS COME AGAIN, I'LL TAKE CARE OF MYSELF!

IF WE DON'T STICK TOGETHER, THE INDIANS WILL WIPE US OUT. WE'LL STAND TOGETHER FOR THE COMMON GOOD... AND THAT MEANS ALL OF US.

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A color illustration of a man in 18th-century clothing, including a white shirt, grey breeches, and a brown sash. He is walking on a path towards the left, with a large tree and a wooden fence in the background. The illustration is part of a book cover for 'The American Revolution' by John F. Kennedy.

ON JUNE 17, 1775, THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR WAS JUST TWO MONTHS OLD... AND THE MILITIA, AND ITS INFANT COUNTRY FACED THEIR GREATEST TEST...

THE BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL



WE'VE GOT TO HOLD ON TO THIS HIGH GROUND AND HARASS THE BRITISH IN BOSTON AS LONG AS POSSIBLE.

THERE'S A RUMOR THAT THE REDCOATS ARE BRINGING IN MORE TROOPS. IT SOUNDS LIKE THEY WILL ATTACK SOON!

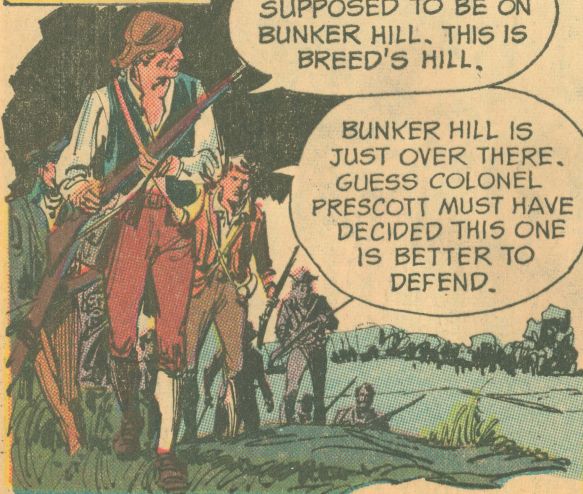
THE RUMOR WAS TRUE. THE BRITISH WERE SHIPPING REINFORCEMENTS INTO BOSTON.



COLONEL PRESCOTT, BUNKER HILL IS UNFORTIFIED. TAKE YOUR MEN UP THERE AND GET READY TO MEET AN ATTACK!

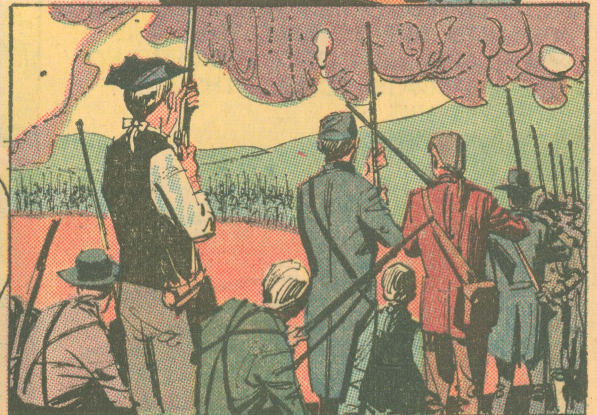
WE'RE LOW ON POWDER AND BALLS. WE'LL HANG ON AS LONG AS THEY LAST.

THAT NIGHT...



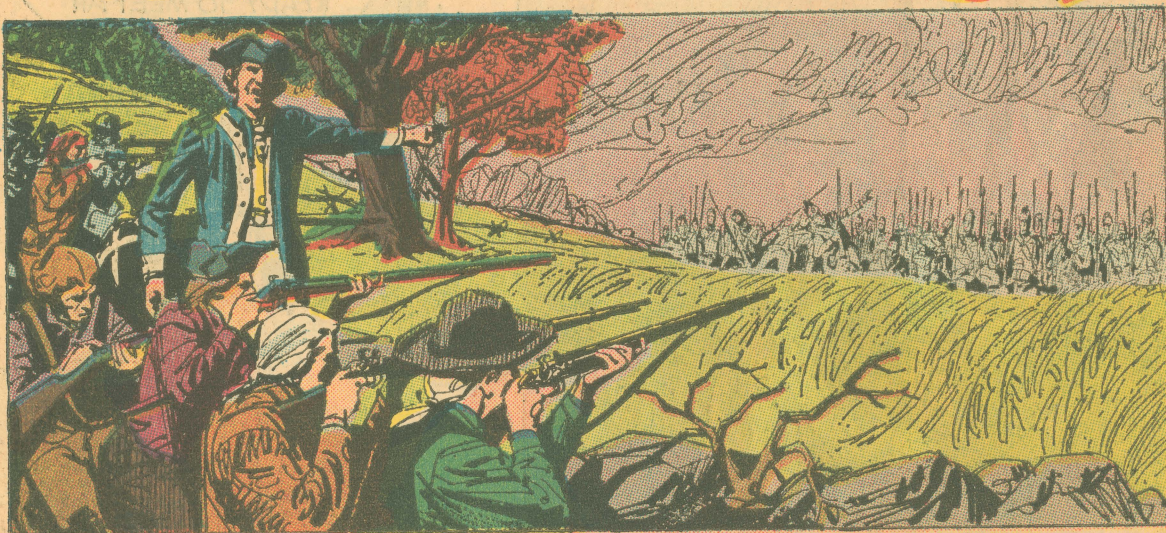
I HEARD WE WERE SUPPOSED TO BE ON BUNKER HILL. THIS IS BREED'S HILL.

BUNKER HILL IS JUST OVER THERE. GUESS COLONEL PRESCOTT MUST HAVE DECIDED THIS ONE IS BETTER TO DEFEND.

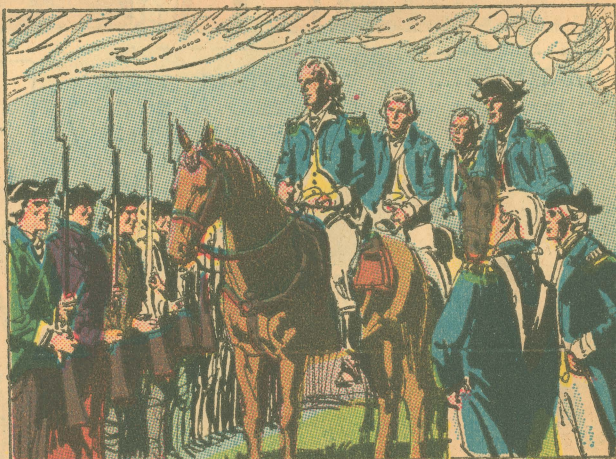


NEXT MORNING, TWO RAGGED LINES OF AMERICAN DEFENDERS STARED DOWN BREED'S HILL... THE SEVEN CRACK BRITISH REGIMENTS LINING UP TO ASSAULT THEIR POSITION.

AS THE REDCOATS STARTED UP THE HILL...



THE COLONIALS TOOK A TERRIBLE TOLL OF BRITISH LIVES AS THEY WITHSTOOD TWO ASSAULTS. BUT THE THIRD TIME, THE AMERICANS RAN OUT OF POWDER, AND THE REDCOATS FORCED THEM OFF BREED'S HILL.



BUT... THE BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL PROVED TO THE BRITISH AND THE WORLD THAT COLONIAL MILITIA—MADE UP OF FARMERS AND SHOPKEEPERS—WAS A MATCH FOR THE BEST INFANTRY FROM EUROPE.

THROUGH THE YEARS, THE MILITIA WAS ALWAYS READY TO **FIGHT FOR FREEDOM!**

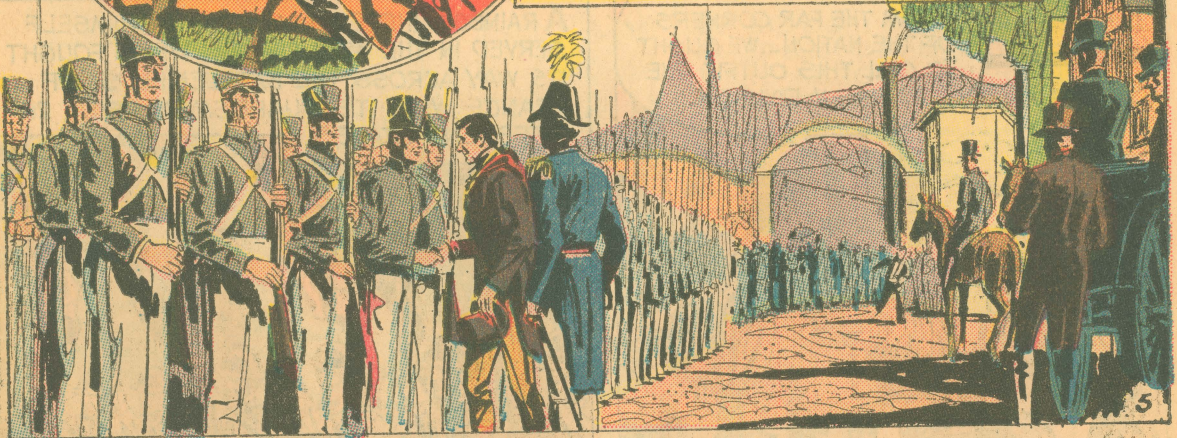


IN THE WAR OF 1812, KENTUCKY VOLUNTEERS, UNDER THE COMMAND OF GENERAL WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON, SMASHED THE BRITISH ARMY IN THE NORTHWEST AND ROUTED ITS INDIAN ALLIES, KILLING TECUMSEH. THIS VICTORY AT THE BATTLE OF THE THAMES AVENGED AN INDIAN MASSACRE OF KENTUCKY MILITIA AT THE RIVER RAISIN.

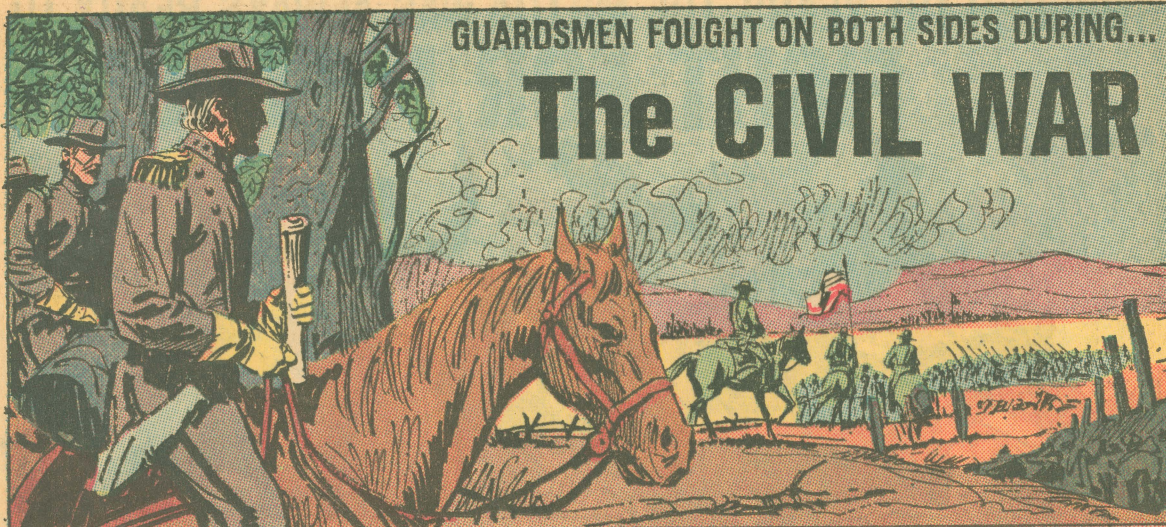


STAND FAST,
MISSISSIPPIANS!

COLONEL JEFFERSON DAVIS AND THE MISSISSIPPI RIFLES, HELD OFF, AND THEN ROUTED THE MEXICANS AT BUENA VISTA IN 1847.



IT WAS THE TRIUMPHAL VISIT OF THE MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE TO THE UNITED STATES IN 1824-25 THAT SERVED TO GAIN A NEW NAME FOR THE MILITIA. A BATTALION OF NEW YORKERS - CHOSEN TO BE LAFAYETTE'S HONOR GUARD, RENAMED ITSELF "THE BATTALION OF NATIONAL GUARD." AS A TRIBUTE TO LAFAYETTE, WHO HAD COMMANDED THE FAMED "GARDE NATIONALE DE PARIS." SOON, MANY MILITIA UNITS ADOPTED THE NAME "NATIONAL GUARD."



GUARDSMEN FOUGHT ON BOTH SIDES DURING...

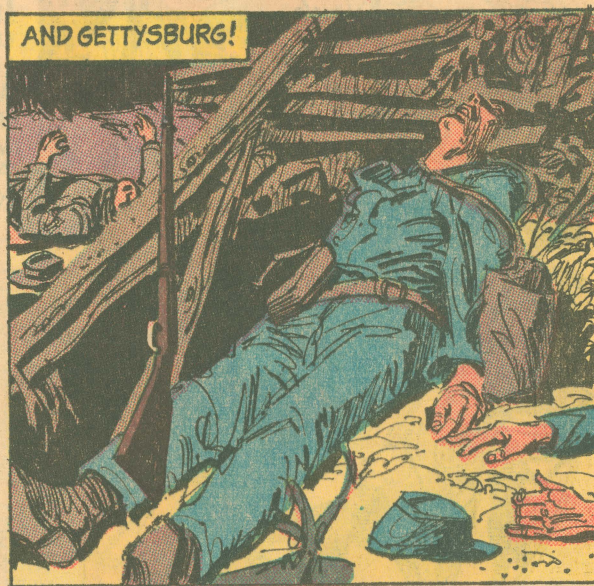
The CIVIL WAR

THE 4TH ALABAMA AND NEW YORK'S FIGHTING 69TH FACED EACH OTHER AT BULL RUN, ANTIETAM...

OUT OF MY WAY, YANK, I'M COMING THROUGH!

SURRENDER, REB, OR DIE!

AND GETTYSBURG!

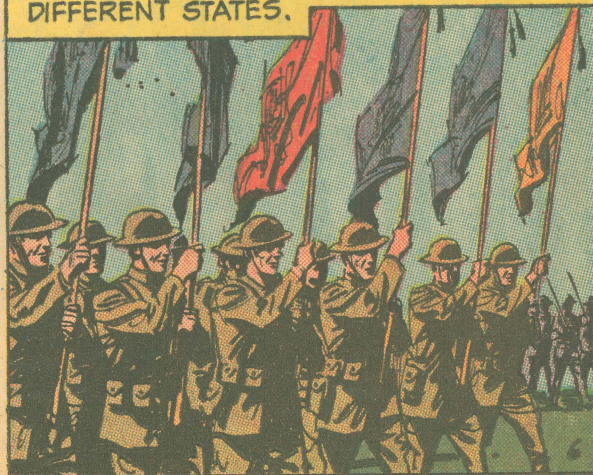


FROM THE FAR CORNERS OF THE NATION...WE OUGHT TO CALL THIS OUTFIT THE RAINBOW DIVISION.

A RAINBOW INDEED...! MACARTHUR HIMSELF SERVED IN THE 42ND DIVISION WHICH FOUGHT ITS WAY ACROSS THE BATTLEFIELDS OF FRANCE WITH ITS GUARDSMEN FROM 26 DIFFERENT STATES.

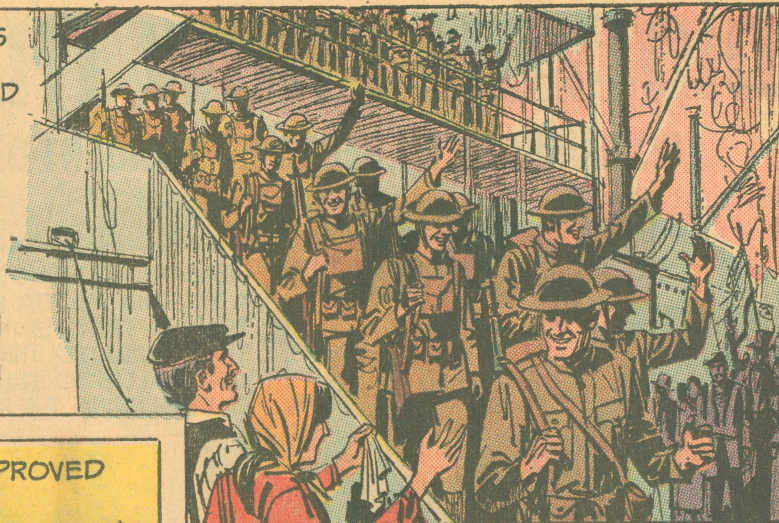


BUT THEN IN WORLD WAR I, THESE SAME TWO REGIMENTS FOUGHT SHOULDER TO SHOULDER IN THE NATIONAL GUARD'S FAMED 42ND DIVISION THAT WAS NICKNAMED BY THEN COLONEL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR...

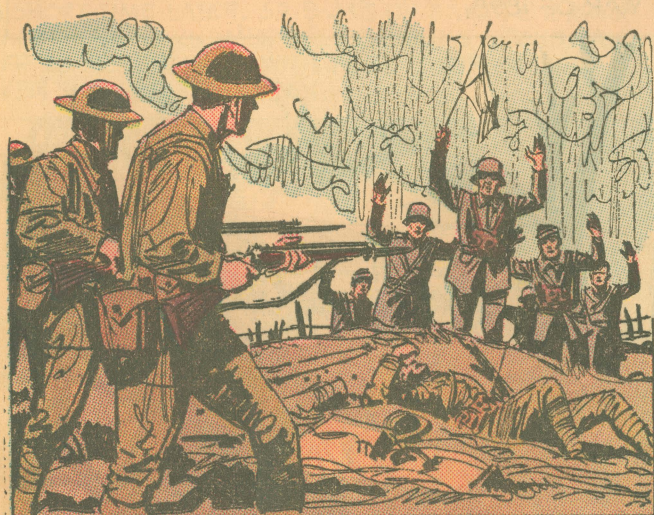


WHEN THE CALL TO COLORS
SOUNDED IN WORLD WAR I
THE GUARD WAS READY... AND
IN THE FOREFRONT OF THE
AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY
FORCE THAT SAILED TO
FRANCE TO...

FIGHT THE HUN!



IN COMBAT, THE GUARD PROVED
ITS WORTH...



GUARDSMEN OF THE 27TH AND 30TH DIVISIONS,
SMASHED THE FAMED HINDENBURG LINE
NEAR BELLICOURT.

OF THE EIGHT AMERICAN DIVISIONS
RATED BEST BY THE GERMANS, SIX
WERE NATIONAL GUARD UNITS.
THEY WERE...



26TH
DIVISION



28TH
DIVISION



32ND
DIVISION



33RD
DIVISION



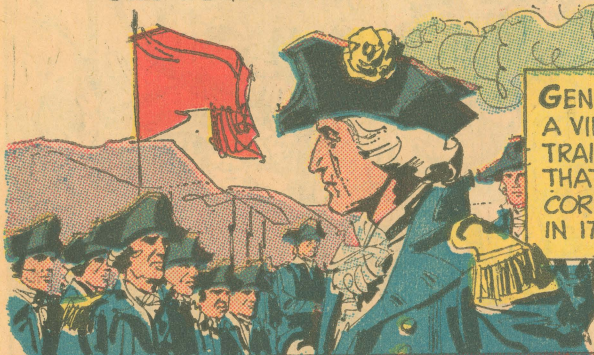
37TH
DIVISION



42ND
DIVISION

DID YOU KNOW THAT?

SIX GUARDSMEN BECAME PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.



GENERAL WASHINGTON, ONCE COMMANDER OF A VIRGINIA MILITIA REGIMENT, MOLDED UN-TRAINED TROOPS INTO A FIGHTING COMMAND THAT DEFEATED THE BRITISH AND FORCED CORNWALLIS TO SURRENDER AT YORKTOWN IN 1781, ENDING THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

GENERAL ANDREW JACKSON DUG IN AT NEW ORLEANS WITH A STRANGE ASSORTMENT OF FRONTIERSMEN, MILITIAMEN AND PIRATES. DESPITE OVERWHELMING ODDS, HE GAVE THE BRITISH THEIR WORST DEFEAT IN THE WAR OF 1812.



ABRAHAM LINCOLN WAS THE CAPTAIN OF A LOCAL ILLINOIS COMPANY DURING THE BLACKHAWK WAR IN 1832.

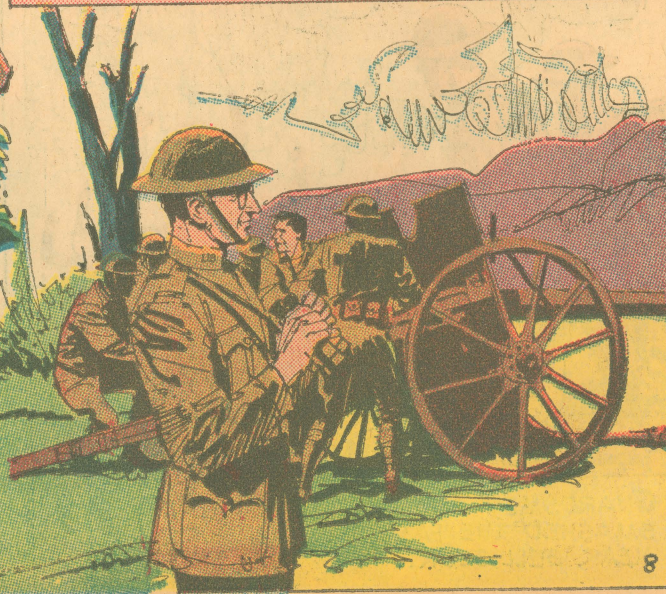


AND CHESTER A. ARTHUR SERVED AS QUARTERMASTER GENERAL OF NEW YORK STATE TROOPS DURING THE CIVIL WAR.



IT WAS COLONEL TEDDY ROOSEVELT, A ONE TIME NEW YORK GUARDSMEN, WHO LED THE FAMOUS CHARGE OF THE ROUGH RIDERS UP SAN JUAN HILL IN CUBA DURING THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR OF 1898.

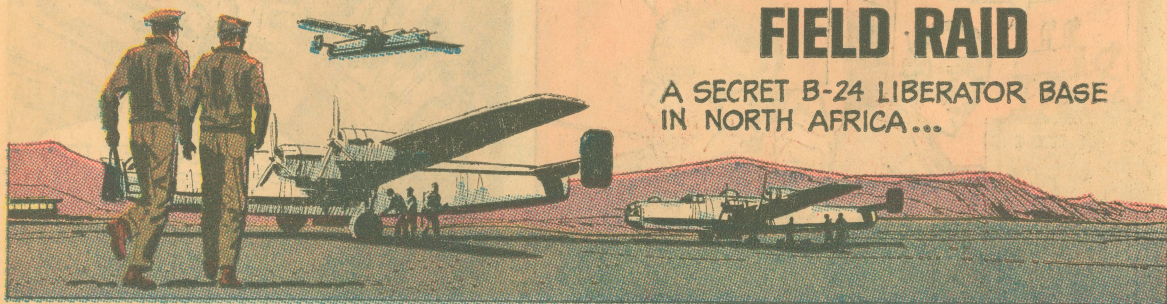
CAPTAIN HARRY S. TRUMAN COMMANDED A MISSOURI FIELD ARTILLERY BATTERY IN FRANCE DURING HIS SERVICE WITH THE A.E.F.



WHEN AMERICA ENTERED WORLD WAR II AFTER THE JAPANESE SNEAK-ATTACKED PEARL HARBOR ON DEC. 7, 1941, NATIONAL GUARDSMEN HAD ALREADY SWELLED THE RANKS OF BOTH THE REGULAR ARMY AND THE ARMY AIR FORCE. ONE GUARD PILOT WAS ADDISON E. BAKER OF OHIO, WHO ON AUG. 1, 1943, WAS DESTINED TO PLAY A VITAL ROLE IN A DARING LOW-LEVEL ASSAULT...

THE PLOESTI OIL FIELD RAID

A SECRET B-24 LIBERATOR BASE IN NORTH AFRICA...



COLONEL ADDISON BAKER, COMMANDER OF THE 93RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP, WATCHES THE PREPARATIONS WITH AN OLD FRIEND AND VISITING START-OFFICER, MAJOR JOHN JERSTAD...

IT'S A LONG WAY FROM HERE TO THOSE OIL FIELDS IN RUMANIA.

I'M GLAD YOU'RE GOING TO BE IN THE CO-PILOT SEAT, JOHN. THAT WILL MAKE IT LIKE OLD TIMES IN ENGLAND.

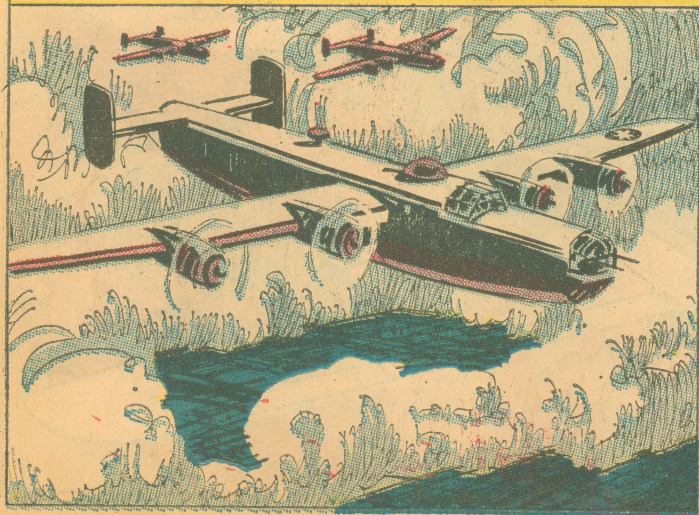
2 A.M., AUG. 1, IN THE GROUP'S BRIEFING TENT.

AFTER ALL THE WEEKS OF SECRET LOW-LEVEL TRAINING WE'RE FINALLY GOING FOR THE BIG ONE—THE PLOESTI OIL FIELDS. LET'S SHOW THE GERMANS SOME REAL PINPOINT BOMBING. I WILL LEAD YOU IN. GOOD LUCK!

A SHORT TIME LATER, 39 B-24'S OF BAKER'S GROUP WHICH WAS NICKNAMED THE TRAVELING CIRCUS, TAKE OFF TO RENDEZVOUS WITH FOUR OTHER GROUPS OVER THE MEDITERRANEAN.

IN THE COCKPIT OF HELL'S WENCH.

BAKER TO GROUP. WE DON'T WANT TO TIP OUR HANDS, SO FROM HERE TO THE TARGET WE OBSERVE STRICT RADIO SILENCE. OVER AND OUT.



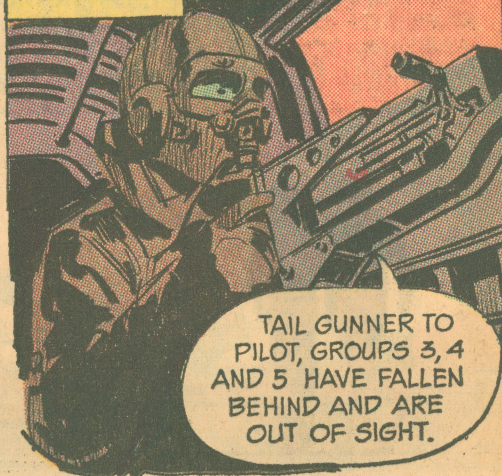
BUT THEIR PRECAUTIONS WERE IN VAIN, BECAUSE AT A GERMAN ADVANCE WARNING STATION IN GREECE...

ACHTUNG!
AMERIKANISCHE
BOMBER GRUPPEN
KOMMEN!

ACHTUNG!
AMERIKANISCHE
BOMBER GRUPPEN
KOMMEN!



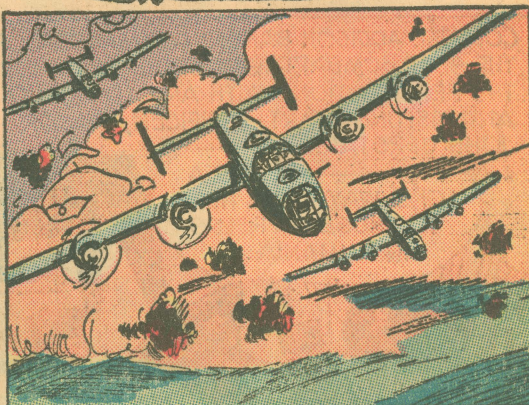
AND MORE BAD NEWS WAS IN THE MAKING...



TAIL GUNNER TO
PILOT, GROUPS 3, 4
AND 5 HAVE FALLEN
BEHIND AND ARE
OUT OF SIGHT.

WE MUST HAVE
LOST THEM IN THAT
LAST CLOUD BANK.

WE'LL HIT PLOESTI
WITH EVERYTHING WE
HAVE LEFT. LOOK, FLAK
TOWERS AHEAD.

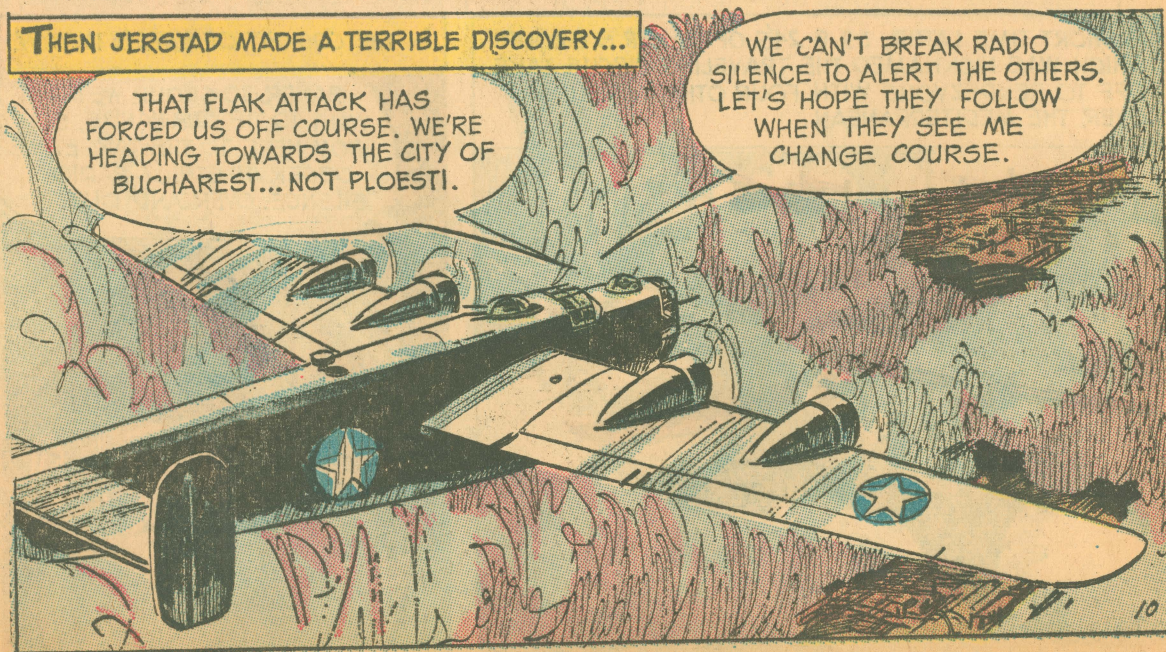


TAKING EVASIVE ACTION, BAKER LED THE TRAVELING CIRCUS DOWN TO TREE-TOP LEVEL, BUT THE GERMAN GUNS WERE ZEROED IN AND WAITING.

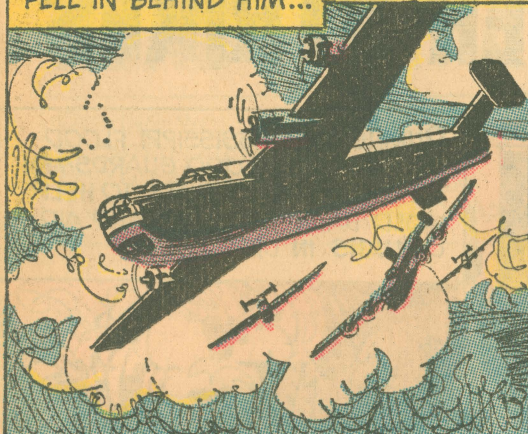
THEN JERSTAD MADE A TERRIBLE DISCOVERY...

THAT FLAK ATTACK HAS
FORCED US OFF COURSE. WE'RE
HEADING TOWARDS THE CITY OF
BUCHAREST... NOT PLOESTI.

WE CAN'T BREAK RADIO
SILENCE TO ALERT THE OTHERS.
LET'S HOPE THEY FOLLOW
WHEN THEY SEE ME
CHANGE COURSE.



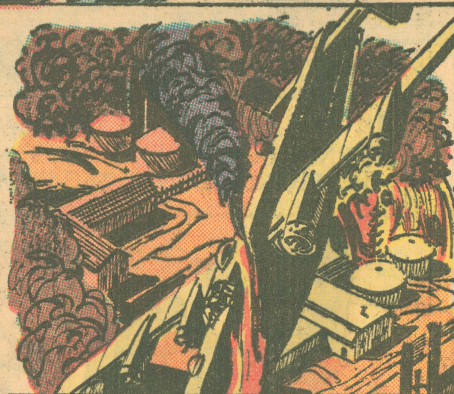
BAKER EXECUTED A 90 DEGREE LEFT TURN — AND ONE BY ONE HIS GROUP FELL IN BEHIND HIM...



THEN CAME THE GERMAN'S NEXT LINE OF DEFENSE... THE LUFT WAFFE....

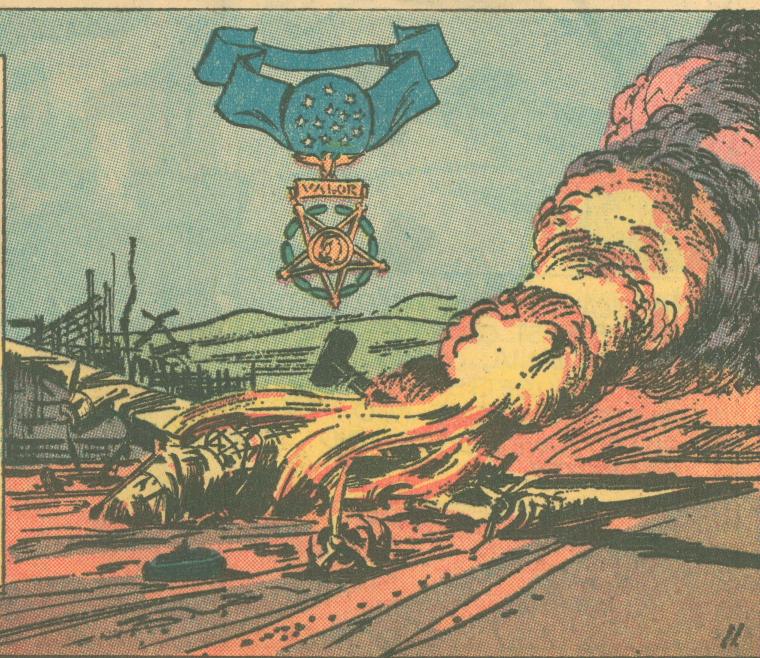


WE'RE OVER THE TARGET! REFINERIES DEAD AHEAD...



THROUGH A SUPERHUMAN EFFORT, COLONEL BAKER KEPT HIS SHOT-UP PLANE IN THE AIR UNTIL HE WAS OVER HIS GROUP'S DESIGNATED TARGET AREA, AND THEN...

FOR BRAVERY ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY IN LEADING THE PLANES OF THE 93RD BOMBARDMENT GROUP TO THE TARGET AT PLOESTI, COLONEL ADDISON E. BAKER OF AKRON OHIO, WAS POSTHUMOUSLY AWARDED THE MEDAL OF HONOR. BAKER WAS ONE OF THE 25 GUARDSMEN TO BE AWARDED THE MEDAL OF HONOR FOR VALOR IN WORLD WAR II.



ALONG WITH ITS GALLANTRY IN WAR THE GUARD HAS ALWAYS BEEN READY TO SERVE IN PEACE...

WHEN DISASTER STRIKES



DURING THE MISSISSIPPI FLOOD OF 1964-65, 33,000 GUARDSMEN WERE CALLED TO DUTY TO HELP HOLD BACK THE RIVER AND AID CIVILIANS IN DISTRESS.

IN TEXAS CITY, WHEN THE TOWN WAS TURNED INTO AN EXPLODING INFERNO, THE GUARD FOUGHT THE FLAMES...



AND WHEN OUR WILD LIFE IS THREATENED WITH EXTINCTION DURING THE SAVAGE WINTERS IN THE NORTHWEST, THE GUARD GETS FOOD TO THE HERDS...



HURRICANES DEVASTATED PARTS OF THE EAST COAST STATES OF PENNSYLVANIA, CONNECTICUT, MASSACHUSETTS AND RHODE ISLAND NOT LONG AGO. THE GUARD SAVED LIVES AND PROPERTY.



AFTER THREE CENTURIES OF SERVICE, AMERICA HAS LEARNED THAT ITS CITIZEN-SOLDIERS ARE ALWAYS...

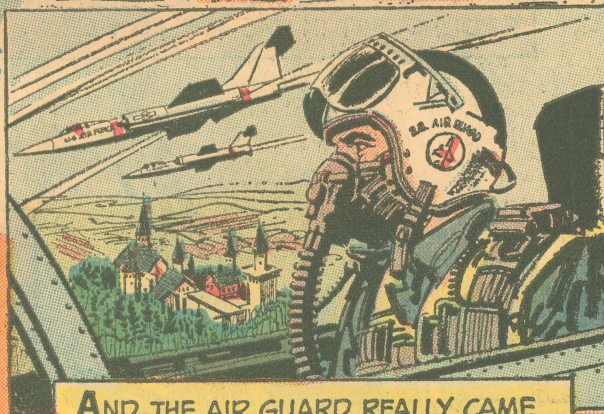
READY FOR ANY EMERGENCY!

DURING WORLD WAR II, 82,000 ENLISTED GUARDSMEN WERE COMMISSIONED TO HELP TRAIN AND LEAD OUR TROOPS IN COMBAT..

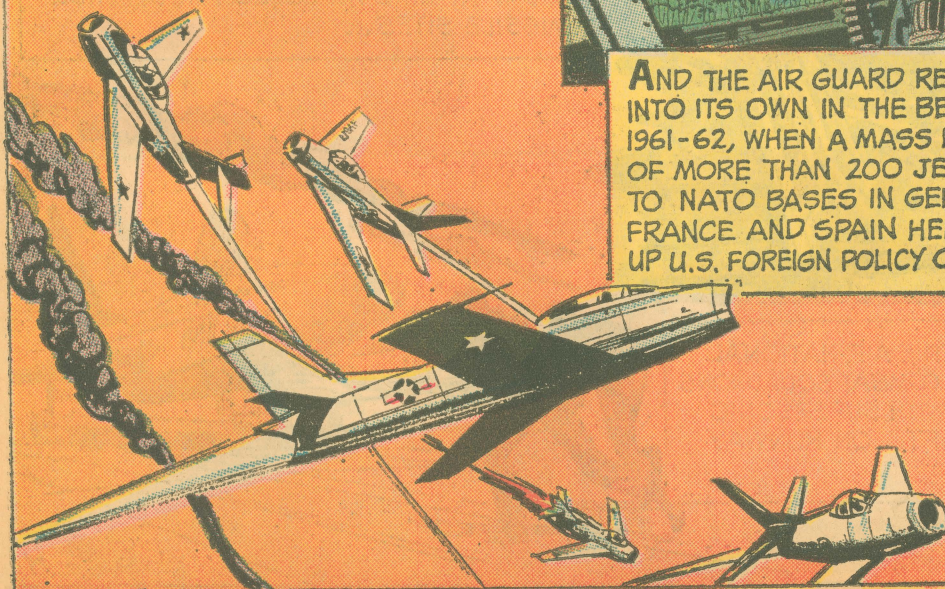


18 GUARD DIVISIONS, 9 IN EUROPE AND 9 IN THE PACIFIC, SAW ACTIVE DUTY... AND THE 29TH DIVISION SPEARHEADED THE D-DAY INVASION AT NORMANDY....

...IN THE KOREAN WAR, ONE THIRD OF THE GUARD'S GROUND FORCES AND 85% OF THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD SAW ACTIVE DUTY.



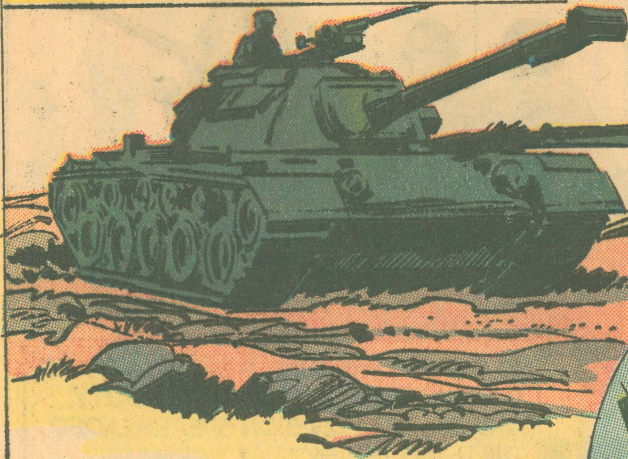
AND THE AIR GUARD REALLY CAME INTO ITS OWN IN THE BERLIN CRISIS, 1961-62, WHEN A MASS DEPLOYMENT OF MORE THAN 200 JET FIGHTERS TO NATO BASES IN GERMANY, FRANCE AND SPAIN HELPED BACK UP U.S. FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES.



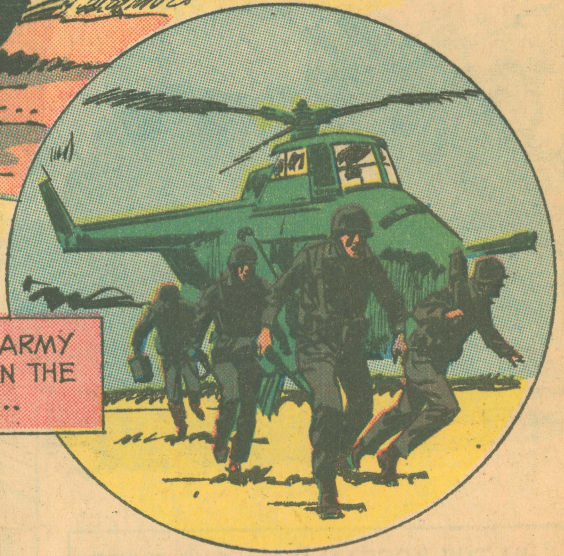
AMERICA'S GUARD

IS ALWAYS UP!

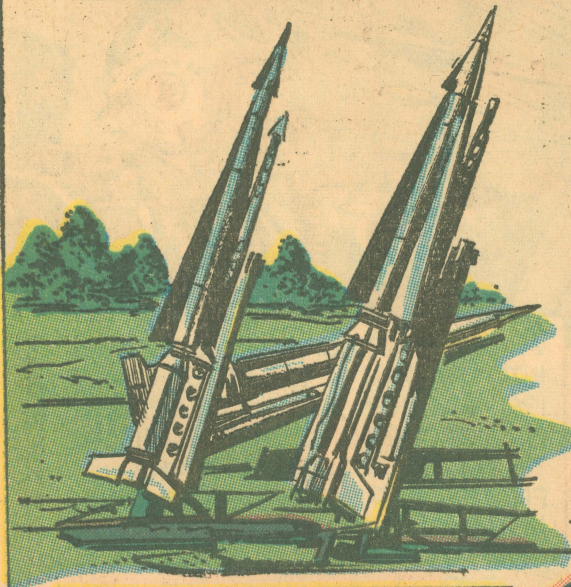
TODAY, THE GUARDSMEN IS AS MODERN AND UP-TO-DATE AS HIS COUNTERPART IN THE ACTIVE ARMY AND AIR FORCE...



GUARDSMEN HAVE 64,000 WHEELED AND 3,200 TRACKED VEHICLES TO GIVE THEM MOBILITY...

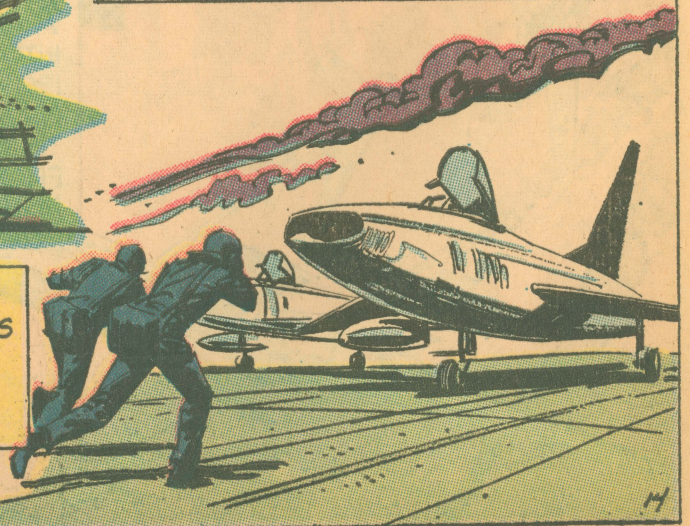


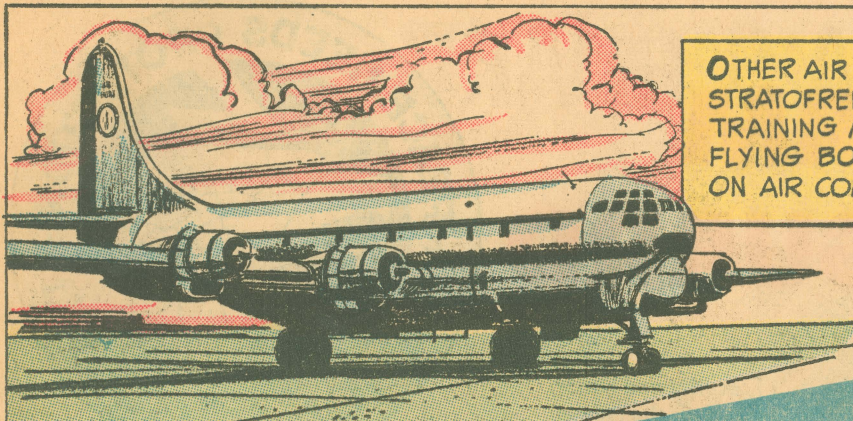
MANY OF THE 400,000 MEN IN THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD MOVE NOT ONLY ON THE GROUND BUT IN THE AIR AS WELL...



READY TO DEFEND THEIR COUNTRY AGAINST A POSSIBLE SNEAK ATTACK, UNITS OF THE NATIONAL GUARD ARE ON DUTY 24 HOURS A DAY AT NIKE HERCULES AIR DEFENSE MISSILE SITES...

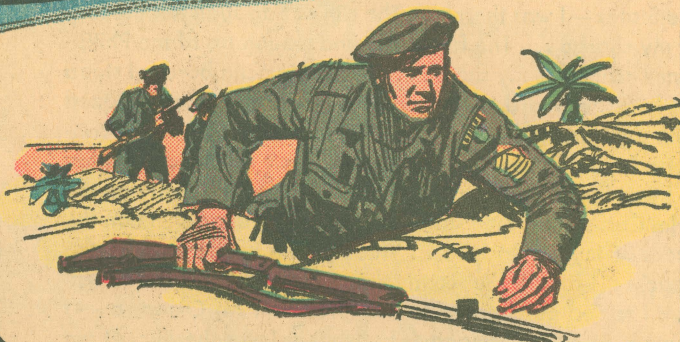
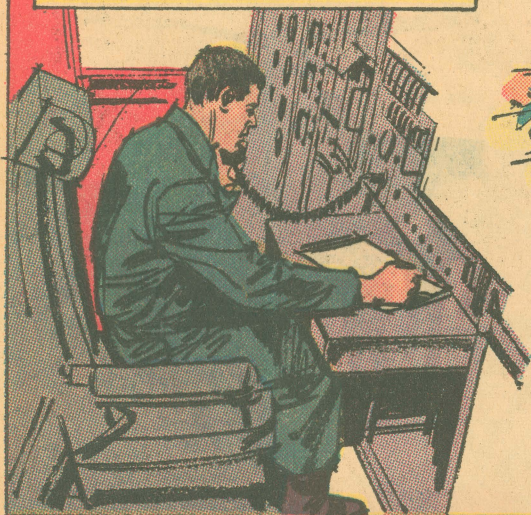
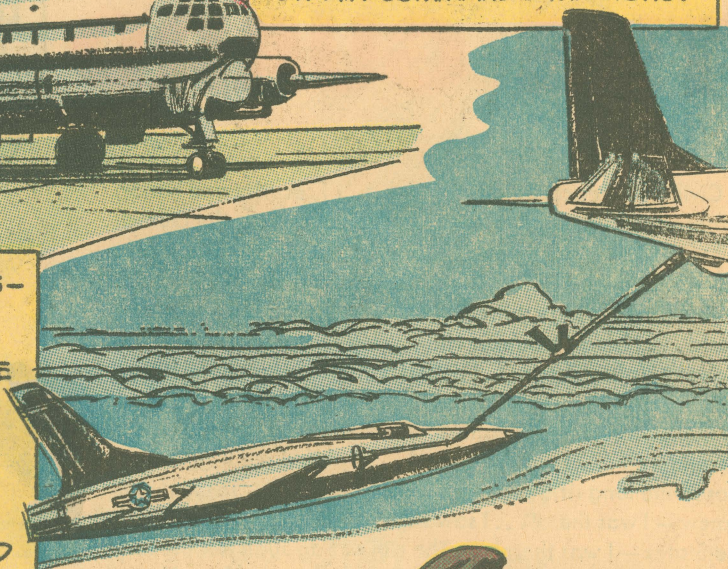
IN THE AIR, THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD HAS COMBAT SQUADRONS OUTFITTED WITH SUPERSONIC JET AIRCRAFT... ON RUNWAY ALERT...





OTHER AIR GUARDSMEN FLY C-97 STRATOFREIGHTERS ON GLOBAL TRAINING MISSIONS. C-119 FLYING BOX CARS ARE USED ON AIR COMMANDO MISSIONS.

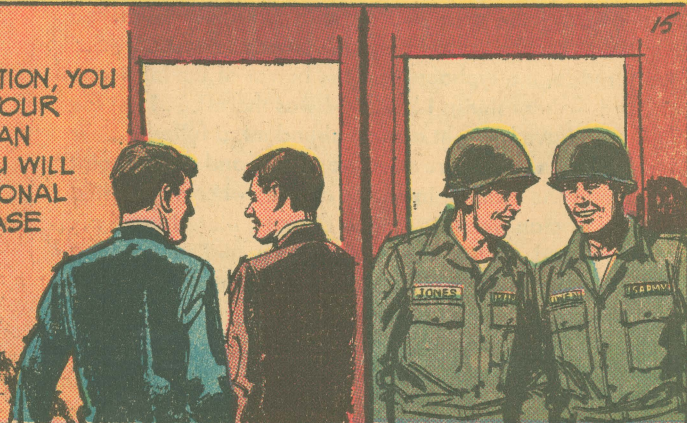
AND THERE ARE AIR GUARDSMEN TAKING PART IN AERIAL REFUELLING MISSIONS, IN FIGHTERS AND RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT FOR TACTICAL AIR COMMAND...AND OTHERS WHO DO NOT FLY NEVERTHELESS FILL IMPORTANT AIR GUARD ROLES AS SPECIALISTS IN RADAR COMMUNICATIONS, AND TRAFFIC CONTROL.



CERTAIN ARMY GUARDSMEN TRAIN TO STAY QUALIFIED FOR DUTY WITH THE CELEBRATED "GREEN BERET" SPECIAL FORCES UNITS.

NO MATTER WHAT YOUR OCCUPATION, YOU ALWAYS HAVE TIME TO SERVE YOUR COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY. YOU CAN FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HOW YOU WILL FIT IN BY VISITING THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY OR THE AIR BASE NEAREST YOUR HOME.

DO IT TODAY!



I AM THE GUARD



Civilian in Peace, Soldier in War . . . of security and honor, for three centuries I have been the custodian, I am the Guard.

I was with Washington in the dim forests, fought the wily warrior, and watched the dark night bow to the morning . . . At Concord's bridge, I fired the fateful shot heard 'round the world . . . I bled on Bunker Hill . . . My footprints marked the snows at Valley Forge . . . I pulled a muffled oar on the barge that bridged the icy Delaware . . . I stood with Washington on the sun-drenched heights of Yorktown . . . I saw the sword surrendered . . . I am the Guard . . . I pulled the trigger that loosed the long rifle's havoc at New Orleans . . . These things I knew — I was there! . . . I saw both sides of the War between the States — I was there! . . . The Hill at San Juan felt the fury of my charge . . . The far plains and mountains of the Philippines echoed to my shout . . . On the Mexican border I stood . . . I am the Guard . . . The dark forest of the Argonne blazed with my barrage . . . Chateau Thierry crumbled to my cannonade . . . Under the arches of victory I marched in legion — I was there! . . . I am the Guard . . . I bowed briefly on the grim Corregidor, then saw the light of liberation shine on the faces of my comrades . . . Through the jungle and on the beaches, I fought the enemy, beat, battered and broke him . . . I raised our banner to the serene air on Okinawa — I scrambled over Normandy's beaches — I was there! . . . I am the Guard . . . Across the 38th Parallel I made my stand . . . I flew MIG Alley — I was there! . . . I am the Guard.

Soldier in war, civilian in peace . . . I am the Guard.

I was at Johnstown, where the raging waters boomed down the valley . . . I cradled the crying child in my arms and saw the terror leave her eyes . . . I moved through smoke and flame at Texas City . . . The stricken knew the comfort of my skill . . . I dropped the food that fed the starving beast on the frozen fields of the west and through the towering drifts I ploughed to rescue the marooned . . . I have faced forward to the tornado, the typhoon, and the horror of the hurricane and flood — these things I know — I was there! . . . I am the Guard . . . I have brought a more abundant, a fuller, a finer life to our youth . . . Wherever a strong arm and valiant spirit must defend the Nation, in peace or war, wherever a child cries, or a woman weeps in time of disaster, there I stand . . . I am the Guard . . . For three centuries a soldier in war, a civilian in peace — of security and honor, I am the custodian, now and forever . . . I am the Guard.

