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BIENNIAL REPORT

OF

The Adjutant General



ILLINOIS

1948-1950

1 November 1950

Honorable Adlai E. Stevenson,
Governor of the State of Illinois,
Springfield, Illinois.

Sir:

The following Biennium Report for the period 1 September 1948 to 31 October 1950 is submitted, as required by law. (Section 9, Article VI, Military and Naval Code of Illinois.)

The objective during the period of this report has been the attainment of the high degree of efficiency in the organization, equipping, training and housing of our troops, so vital to the successful accomplishment of their assigned missions.

STATUS OF STATE TROOPS

Under the provisions of the National Defense Act, the policies of the Department of Defense and the directives based thereon, the military and naval forces of Illinois have a dual status, Federal and State.

The troops of Illinois and the several states, territories and the District of Columbia under the Federal Law are a reserve component of the Army, Air Force and Navy of the United States, and, as such, are subject to immediate call or order for duty by the Federal Government in time of emergency in accordance with the assigned "M" Day Federal Mission.

"M" DAY FEDERAL MISSION

"To provide a reserve component of the Army of the United States, capable of immediate expansion to war strength, able to furnish units fit for service anywhere in the world, trained and equipped:

"a. To defend critical areas of the United States against land, seaborne, or airborne invasion.

"b. To assist in covering the mobilization and concentration of the remainder of the reserve forces.

"c. To participate by units in all types of operations, including the offensive, either in the United States or overseas."

STATE MISSION

"To provide sufficient organizations in each state, so trained and equipped as to enable them to function efficiently at existing strength in the protection of life and property and the preservation of peace, order, and public safety, under competent orders of the state authority."

TROOP BASIS ALLOTMENT FOR ILLINOIS

When the reorganization of our State forces was inaugurated following World War II, the Federal Government, in conformity with its

overall planning for a balanced force to provide for our national security, allotted to Illinois a total of 297 units, Army, Air and Navy, with a strength of 40,108 officers and men. This allotment has been revised several times, due to reorganization of army and air units, and our troop basis now consists of units and strength as follows:

ILLINOIS ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

	Units	Strength
Headquarters & Headquarters Detachment.....	2	135
33rd Infantry Division.....	110	14,035
44th Infantry Division.....	114	14,035
109th Antiaircraft Artillery Brigade.....	24	2,342
178th Regimental Combat Team.....	29	3,601
32nd Ordnance Battalion.....	4	375
	283	34,523

ILLINOIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD

66th Fighter Wing.....	27	2,713
	310	37,236

ILLINOIS NAVAL MILITIA

Brigade Staff	1	16
Battalion Staffs	2	36
Divisions	8	1,720
	11	1,772
====	====	====
	321	39,008

STATUS OF ACTIVATION

We have completed the activation of 313 units of the above total, as indicated below:

ILLINOIS ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Units Allotted	Units Activated	Per Cent Complete
283	275	97%

ILLINOIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD

27	27	100%
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ILLINOIS NAVAL MILITIA

11	11	100%
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Only eight AAA units remain to be organized. Two of these units are now in process of organization and it is expected will be completed during this biennium.

The organization of the remaining six units will depend on the Federal mobilization requirements.

This is a remarkable achievement on the part of our officers when it is realized that 92 of these units are still housed in rented buildings, which are greatly inferior to our State and Armory Board Armories.

ARMORIES AND OTHER FACILITIES

The acceptance by Illinois of this troop basis, which is three times our pre-war strength, posed many major problems, the most important of which was the housing of this greatly expanded force and storage and maintenance facilities required for the tremendous amount of equipment involved.

The Department of Defense placed the reorganization of the National Guard as top priority in their national security planning and urged the states to initiate the activation of units as expeditiously as possible, even to the extent of providing temporary housing, in order that there would be, in being, a force to meet the requirements for the defense of the continental United States if the need arose.

Illinois immediately undertook this monumental task utilizing to the fullest extent the 38 State-owned armories and augmenting them by the rental of commercial buildings, most of which were, and still are, totally inadequate.

The magnitude of this problem was clearly apparent when we were confronted with the fact that between fifty and sixty additional armories, plus warehouses, hangars, machine shops, garages, et cetera, were required to house and train these troops and for the storage and maintenance of the more than 5000 trucks; 554 armored vehicles; 116 artillery weapons; 85 tractors; 2511 trailers, all types; 119 airplanes, all types; as well as the many spare parts, individual weapons, clothing and other miscellaneous equipment.

The cost to the states in providing new armories and the other facilities required was prohibitive and obviously none of the states were in a position to shoulder the financial burden involved. The Federal Government, being fully aware of this, provided for Federal financial assistance in the following policies:

- “1. The division of Federal and State responsibilities is as follows:
 - “a. The States will furnish the personnel, adequate armories, and storage facilities.
 - “b. The Federal Government will furnish the outdoor training facilities.
 - “c. When the requirements for a balanced force in the Army of the United States necessitates the allocation to a State of troops or equipment, the housing or storage of which would impose *an inequitable burden upon the State*, such allocation will be made *with the understanding that the Federal Government will contribute its equitable share of*

