

Waynesville Company Termed 'One Of Best' National Guard Units In State

Col. Davis Cites Role Of Tankers

The Waynesville unit of the National Guard was termed "one of the best in the state" by Lieutenant Colonel James Davis commander of the 120th Battalion as he addressed the Rotary Club Friday.

The Waynesville man who has held every rank in the Guard during his 27 years of service, except that of master sergeant, discussed the National Guard as America's first line of defense.

Today, with all our military forces taking new or expanded roles, it is important to understand the background and current aims of our oldest military organization—the National Guard. Especially since, more than any other military component, the Guard is invested with the deep personal pride of our communities. It is supported by local effort, encouraged by the traditions of our home states, and staffed with officers and men who are our friends and neighbors.

"I know of no other organization in the country that has come closer to the line of American beliefs, that is dedicated more completely to American principles, than our own National Guard," Davis said. "The American people have never tolerated the idea of a large professional army. Not only because of the high cost of such an army, but because of the belief that it is the right and duty of the American citizen to defend his country in time of danger.

"The troops that defeated Cornwallis and won American Independence at Yorktown were almost wholly volunteer soldiers—citizens who left their newly-built homes to fight for their right to live in them as free men. The men who won the freedom of the seas in the War of 1812 were also volunteers. In the Indian Wars, and wars with Mexico and Spain, all victories were triumphs of part-time soldiers. And in both world wars, the amateur armies of the United States defeated nations of full-time soldiers, born and bred to war.

"But what happens to a nation with no large standing army when the call to arms is sounded. Have you ever heard this Call to Arms? It is the most rapidly played of all bugle calls; speed is vital. But without a large army ready for instant duty, the only recourse when danger threatens is to transform citizens into soldiers—citizens who have never fired a rifle or flown a plane, who never traversed a difficult terrain or manned a position on a gun crew. It takes time to effect this transformation, time to enlarge a small army to fighting strength. In that time lost, battles too, may be lost. Wars may be lost. Wars may be lost. Freedom may be lost. Two hundred years of democratic ideals may be lost.

"So there you have the problem—



HARRY E. GILLILAND, Fireman Apprentice, son of Mrs. Annie M. Gilliland of Waynesville, is now at the U. S. Naval Receiving Station, Norfolk, Va., awaiting transfer to Atlantic Fleet.



R. L. CLARK of Waynesville has been appointed staff superintendent of the Waynesville area of agents for the Home Beneficial Life Insurance Co., Inc., to direct staff activities of company personnel from Canton west to Murphy. Mr. Clark and his family reside here at 126 Keller St.

How do you keep a nation ready—and thereby secure—without keeping millions of men under arms at all times? There is, of course, one natural solution, one typically American solution—an organization of citizen volunteers, training at home to defend our homes. This solution is called the National Guard—an organized civilian component of the Army and Air Force of the United States, supported by each of the 48 states, by the District of Columbia, by Puerto Rico, Alaska, and Hawaii.

"Actually, the National Guard is older than the nation. It antedates the Revolutionary War and the Constitution. The oldest regiment in the continental United States is the 182nd Infantry of the Massachusetts National Guard, which was organized as a middlesex County Militia in 1636. This regiment fought in the French and Indian Wars. In 1824, certain units of the New York State Militia took the name "National Guard" in honor of LaFayette, who had commanded the "Garde Nationale" in Paris during the French Revolution. From time to time, other states militia took this name, until it was officially recognized in 1903.

"Let's look just for a moment at our own Guard Unit Name. Actually it was formed before World War I and was known as the Richland Rifles. It was called to service in 1917 and served on the Mexican Border and then over seas in France. After the war it was organized as a Machine Gun Company and remained the same to World War II and through this conflict was a heavy weapons company. At the end of the war the National Guard was released, there was no organization, and later in 1947 I was asked to organize a company here, a tank company, and so there you have the problem—

during the normal peacetime year. "What of the National Guardsmen himself? He acquires skills in the course of his military training which give him an advantage in his civilian career over untrained colleagues. He learns military discipline, a healthy respect and understanding for the life and problems of the regular services. He is an ambassador of good will

between the general civilian population and the members of the military. "We must not forget that with all the national significance of his service, the Guardsman's main sponsorship is local in character. The major part of the Guard is still under state control, and is organized in the communities of our country.

"Also, in lifting the not inconsiderable benefits to one derived from membership in the National Guard, we mustn't overlook the little item of money. For each of his weekly two-hour training sessions he receives a full days' pay, and that pay is equal to that of his counterpart in rank in the regular Armed Forces. At the same time every member of the Guard is

building up credit toward retirement pay. "In connection with this matter of money, it should be of interest to every community that all pay and allowances for Guardsmen come from the Federal Government. In other words, the presence of a Guard unit in your community means that a sizable amount of extra money will be spent there—

money which would not come in if you had no Guard unit. And let me tell you that the pay-rolls of some Guard units can be sizable indeed. "For a young man, the course is clear. Men of 17 through 35 years of age can join the National Guard of their own home town. By giving part of their time to their country, they can help America's (Continued on Page 3)

TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

SUMMARY OF ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1957

	FUNDS					
	Totals	General	Street	Light	Water	Debt Service
Budget Requirements	\$469,136.00	\$190,463.00	\$65,841.00	\$120,867.00	\$42,795.00	\$49,170.00
Estimated Revenue Other Than Tax Levy	391,241.00	157,826.00	52,043.00	120,867.00	42,795.00	17,710.00
Tax Required to Balance Budget	\$ 77,895.00	\$ 32,637.00	\$13,798.00			\$31,460.00
Estimated Collection of Prior Levies	8,250.00	3,418.00	1,473.00			3,359.00
Estimated Collections of 1956 Tax Levy	\$ 69,645.00	\$ 29,219.00	\$12,325.00			\$28,101.00
Portion of 1956 Levy Reserved for Future Years	12,180.00	5,046.00	2,175.00			4,959.00
Tax Levy 1956-1957	\$ 81,825.00	\$ 34,265.00	\$14,500.00			\$33,060.00
Tax Rate 1956-1957	\$ 1.40	\$.58	\$.25			\$.57
Tax Rate 1955-1956	\$ 1.40	\$.58	\$.25			\$.57
Estimated Valuation	\$5,800,000.00					
Estimated Polls at \$1.00 each	\$ 625.00					

SUE HINKLEY
Town Clerk



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