

the civilian components of the Army of the United States, and specifically to the National Guard, the Officers' Reserve Corps and the Organized Reserves, the basic principles of the policies laid down in the National Defense Act of 1916 as amended, and especially the provisions of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940 relating to the status of the National Guard as an integral part of the first line of defense of the nation.

The contributions made by the National Guard units and the Organized Reserves on the battle fields of World War II completely justify the wisdom of the Congress in making them a first-line component of the Army of the United States, and amply warrants their retention in that capacity; and be it further

Resolved, That we fully subscribe to and endorse the position taken by the Secretary of War, as to the future status of the National Guard, as announced on November 23, 1944, in which he states:

"It would be the mission of this reserve component (the National Guard), in the event of a national emergency, to furnish units fit for service anywhere in the world. * * *

"This conception of the mission of the National Guard of the United States would interfere in no way with the traditional mission of the National Guard of the States and Territories to provide sufficient organization in each State, Territory and the District of Columbia, 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 authorities. * * *

"* * * National Guard units have played a vital role in the mobilization of our present Army and they have made a brilliant record on every fighting front. We are counting on them as a bulwark of our future national security."

We also approve and endorse the statement of General George Marshall, Chief of Staff of the Army of the United States, set forth in War Department Circular No. 347, August 25, 1944, to the effect that the Postwar Military Establishment should consist of a professional peacetime Army (no larger than necessary to meet normal peacetime requirements) to be reinforced in time of emergency by organized units drawn from the civilian components of the Army of the United States; and be it further

Resolved, That we advocate, in the event that a system of universal military training be included in the Postwar Plan