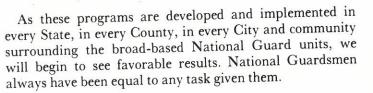
# The States Follow Through

A friend of mine had a favorite expression which he used whenever he handed out a particularly difficult job to his subordinates. He would end his instructions by saying, "You have a large tree to cut down. You'd better get chopping."

One of the most encouraging results of our Mid-Winter Meeting, in late January, is the large number of reports received at your National Association office about the number that have removed their axes from their sheaths and are wielding them vigorously to remove the obstacles to our recruiting and retention problems. These reports indicate a determined effort to follow through on the suggested programs outlined at our meeting.

Already some States have had seminars and workshops and meetings to devise plans and programs to fit their local needs. Many people are working long hours to get meaningful programs under way. They have accepted the general procedures and format suggested at our conference and, as was hoped, they are modifying them for application within their States and local areas.



Here in the Nation's Capital your headquarters staff already has made one important appearance before the Senate Armed Services Committee in support of the extension of the Draft Law. That presentation drew much praise from the Committee members. Testimony in support of our other legislative proposals, which we need to provide the incentives for service, is being prepared now in anticipation of Congressional hearings.

Our success in these efforts is dependent entirely on the support of every National Guardsman. It is most encouraging to see the number who have their axes out and are swinging good licks.



James F. Cantwell President

National Guard Association of the United States



# The National

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MARCH, 1971

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#### THE ZERO DRAFT AND THE NATIONAL GUARD

To aid in understanding the nature of the problem, a thoroughgoing NGAUS staff study delves into the history of Selective Service, the considerations involved in the "zero Draft" concept for the Active Services and the Guard, and some approaches to easing the threatening difficulty of getting and keeping men in uniform.

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There's no subtlety about the front cover of this month's issue. The words tell what might well be considered "Topic A" for the Guard now and for some time to come.

Official monthly publication of the National Guard Association of the United States. Publication office 1 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001. Second class postage paid at Washington, D.C., and at additional mailing offices. All correspondence and address changes should be addressed to 1 Massachusetts Ave. N. W., Washington, D.C. 20001 "THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN" welcomes original articles bearing on National defense, with emphasis on the Army and Air National Guard. Manuscripts must be accompanied by return postage, and no responsibility is assumed for their safe handling. Domestic subscriptions for home delivery: \$2 per year. A year's subscription is included within NGAUS members' annual dues. Subscriptions to foreign addresses, \$2.50 per year. Single copies, 25¢. Copyright, 1971, National Guard Assn. of the U.S. All rights reserved.

MARCH, 1971