On 28 September more than 2,000 members of this Association will assemble in Detroit, Michigan, to participate in the 86th General Conference of the NGAUS. The five business sessions of the Conference and the Annual States Dinner will be held in Cobo Hall, Detroit's mammoth Convention Center.

On hand to address our members will be some of the Country’s most distinguished military leaders.

The true significance of our General Conferences is not in their size nor the caliber of speakers they attract, but in the fact that the discussions of the Association membership express it's will, and this expression becomes the base upon which all the programs that they are planned are implemented by the officers and the staff operating in Washington.

The NGAUS, which has as its purpose the promotion and improvement of the Nation's security, and the fostering and improving of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard of the several States, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia, and the National Guard of the United States as components of the Armed Forces, has achieved considerable success in these endeavors because it has, since its inception, enjoyed the full and enthusiastic support of the National Guard of the several States.

Just as a well-informed citizenry is important to a free nation, a well-informed membership is important to the successful operation of an organization of this type. This headquarters recently forwarded to the State Adjutants General copies of a pamphlet titled "The National Guard Association of the United States." This attractive booklet describes in detail the history, organization, membership, and the accomplishments of the NGAUS. The book can be especially helpful to persons recently appointed in the National Guard, but beyond this can be of interest to other members who may not be fully acquainted with all aspects of the Association's organization and activities. Copies of this booklet are available from the Adjutant General of your State or by writing NGAUS, One Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20001.

As a further means of acquainting members and prospective members with the important work of this Association, there is available upon request a 30-minute presentation, with text and Viewgraph transparencies, suitable for presentations to groups. This material may be ordered from NGAUS Headquarters.

It is our hope that every State will take large delegations to Detroit for the 86th General Conference, for no activity provides a better insight into your Association's operations and the determination with which it works on behalf of the National Guard of the several States than does this annual gathering of several thousand Guardsmen who are brought together for the purpose of establishing the policies and guidelines within which the Association will operate for the coming year.

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