



James F. Cantwell
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Roadbed for Action

IN Government, in industry and business and in associations, two things can be expected to happen to recommendations: They either are left to wither and, in time, to die, to be forgotten, sometimes lamented; or they are acted upon.

At its recent two-day meeting (9-10 Nov.), the NGAUS Executive Council gave general approval to a comprehensive plan for implementing recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee to Study Purposes, Functions and Structure of the NGAUS which was laid before it by the Association's newly-appointed Executive Vice-President, Col James B. Deerin.

The recommendations were approved by Delegates to the 92d General Conference—which also approved amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws necessary to permit, among other things, a re-structuring of the NGAUS Headquarters staff and leadership.

Our members can be assured that the reasoned and thoughtful report of the Committee, headed by Maj Gen LaVern E. Weber of Oklahoma, will not be left to wither and die. It is being carried into effect. There has been action by the Executive Council and the NGAUS staff. The implementing plan—"TRACK FOR THE '70'S" (reported on in detail elsewhere in this issue)—is gathering momentum. It is a framework within which existing programs will be expanded; new programs and projects will be developed. Generally, members will find an increased level of Association activity.

The plan submitted by Col Deerin is a dynamic, forward-looking series of proposals that the Council considers fully responsive to the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee. It affects every area of Association activity, from management and financial to legislative and public affairs.

Significantly, it is a plan that envisions closer working relationships between our National Association, State National Guard Associations, the Adjutants General, Commanders and individual members. It responds to the Ad Hoc Committee recommendation for a larger, more effective Headquarters staff. The plan envisions greater membership participation and increased membership services. These, too, are significant.

Since it is an ambitious program and will require a larger Headquarters staff, we must allow reasonable time for it to gather a full head of steam—to reach the level of activity envisioned by the Ad Hoc Committee. Already specific projects are in the works, principal among them a legislative conference to be held in Washington in January.

"TRACK FOR THE '70'S" is a roadbed for action and accomplishment. ♦



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Dual mission of the Guard—global and domestic—is depicted by Artist Paul Dunbar.

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