

ON WATCH.

ON CALL.

ON GUARD.

Today, more than ever, the men and women of the Air National Guard stand vigilant in the defense of freedom. At Boeing, we're proud to stand with the Guard every day in its vital mission.

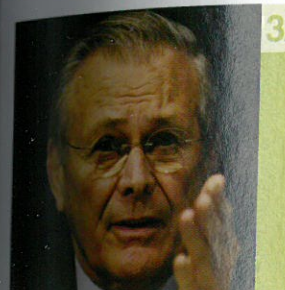


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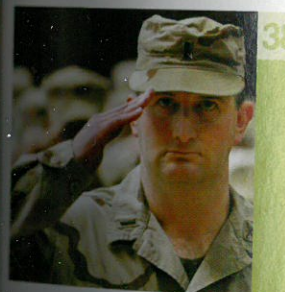
32 Fiscal Semantics

The debate began long before the president's budget arrived on Capitol Hill. The proposal contains funds for 17,000 fewer Army National Guardsmen than Congress authorized last year. Pentagon officials call it "rebalancing." Guard leaders say it's a "cut." But it's not the only item in the 2007 defense budget that affects the Guard.



36 Another Look

Guard roles, training and compensation are under review again. The examiners are the 13 members of the congressionally created Commission on the National Guard and Reserve. The commission, which started last month with a congressional hearing, has a year to complete its work and make recommendations to lawmakers.



38 State of the Army National Guard

Despite its busiest year since World War II, the Army National Guard is once again fighting for its future. The 2007 defense budget request shorts the Army Guard thousands of soldiers. And Army plans call for eliminating six Army National Guard combat brigade teams. It's a tough spot for a force that has proven its operational worth.



42 State of the Air National Guard

The Air National Guard is at a crossroads. The organization must emerge from bitter fights last year over the Base Realignment and Closure process and rebuild ties with Air Force officials. At stake are potential personnel cuts and future missions. The key is effectively communicating the Guard's value to the Air Force and the country.

Brig. Gen. Stephen M. Koper (Ret.)
PUBLISHER

LTC Wayne Hunt
NGAUS CHIEF OF STAFF

John Goheen
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

Christopher Prawdzik
SENIOR EDITOR

Maureen Hearn
PRODUCTION MANAGER

Lauren Bigge
STAFF WRITER

Richard Arnold
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

Ron Sutton
DIRECTOR OF MEMBERSHIP/SERVICES

Brig. Gen. Richard M. Green (Ret.)
LEGISLATIVE DIRECTOR

Pam Buckler
DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

Hazell Booker
DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRY AND
ASSOCIATION LIAISON

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