## The experienced upgrade partner for systems modernization



United Defense customers worldwide have come to expect the quality and reliability that can only come through fifty years of experience in engineering and manufacturing. Now that experience is being applied to upgrade and conversion programs.

Some examples include the M109A6 Paladin. Thoroughly reconstructed from existing M109A2/A3 vehicles, the M109A6 combines improvements in performance, maintainability and survivability. Onboard digital systems now provide day and night operations capability and secure communications. The M88A2 HERCULES, the ODS Bradley and the entire Bradley family, the M9 Armored Earthmover and the M992 Field Artillery Ammunition Support Vehicle are also successes. Each delivers world-class performance, supportability and affordability.



The fact of the matter is, a combat organization is only as good as its least modernized major system. Our experience in upgrading critical systems enables us to tailor a program to meet the customer's

specific force modernization requirements.

Our skills in technology integration and flexible manufacturing mean lower cost, higher quality and rugged durability in the field.

These capabilities are available from United Defense—the experienced upgrade partner for systems modernization.

**United Defense** 

# NATIONAL GUARD





MG Richard C. Alexander (ret.)

ane Matthias

hris Small

thn Goheen

Kristin Patterson

Meyin McAndrews

MIAN R. Calvert

AM Johnson

Connie Carter

DODSON DRIAL ASSISTANT

ORK AND LAYOUR

obal Media Services Inc.

### Features

Inside

Volume 53, Number 8 www.ngaus.org

#### 16 Plea For Help

An Army National Guard full-time-manning shortage has stretched personnel to their limits. In response to this critical situation, Sen. James Jeffords, R-Vt., held a special field hearing to gather testimony from Guardsmen, who are going above and beyond the call of duty to meet this challenge. Jeffords heard from the NGAUS president, the Vermont adjutant general and other Guardsmen.

#### 21 Redefining the Guard's Combat Divisions

As the Army enters the new century, active and Guard troops will increasingly train together, creating a much different paradigm within the Total Force. Active and Guard commanders are swapping places; active and Guard divisions are teaming up; and some Guard brigades are giving up their combat missions to support the active component. It's the beginning of a new era.

#### 24 What Has the NGAUS Done For You Lately?

The NGAUS has compiled an impressive list of legislative accomplishments for the National Guard during the past few years. The association's track is so good that perhaps the question should not be, "What Has the NGAUS Done For You Lately?" but rather, "Where Would the Guard Be Without the NGAUS?"

#### 30 Time to Fill Out Your Atlanta 'To-Do' List

Provocative speakers. Exciting social events and activities. Informative trade exhibits. A host city with a dizzying array of attractions. When the NGAUS 121st General Conference unfolds next month in Atlanta, there will be plenty to see, hear and do in the capital of the "New South." Better start making your "to-do" list now.

### **Departments**

lail Call	4
resident's Message	3
apitol View	
/ashington Update	10
ewsbreaks	12
tate Round-Up	. 28
ssociation News	. 32
dustry Notes	. 33
eturn Fire	34