



This real-time image may never win an award.
 But it could help win a war.



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NATIONAL GUARD



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Features

18 Staying Connected

Unlike World War II, Korea, Vietnam or even Desert Storm, technological advances make it possible for soldiers and airmen to connect with family and friends, even from the most remote outposts in the war on terror. The Internet and various phone options keep ties strong when lengthy deployments separate families. A far cry from regular mail, these innovations make the connection between loved ones immediate and help relieve the stress of lengthy separation.

22 Peace Dividends

At the end of the Cold War, conflicts that emerged from the breakup of the Soviet Union cluttered the news. But something more than chaos resulted from the Berlin Wall's collapse in 1989. The Guard's State Partnership program was created to help those former republics become democracies. The program, however, has evolved beyond its original intent and is lending its influence to the war on terror.

26 Chasing Ghosts

As the Arkansas National Guard moves house to house in Iraq while enduring roadside attacks, they often pick up the insurgents they're looking for, complete with ammunition and explosives. At the same time, they must respond to any and every suspicious call, which leads them to everything from empty houses to dead chickens.

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