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Features

One of the more respected publications in the country recently did a poor job of reporting all the facts on the issue of the Army National Guard's eight combat divisions, currently on the bubble un-

der a Pentagon plan to eliminate them from the force structure. In a New York Times editorial, the newspaper writes off the need to be thoroughly prepared for an unforeseen conflict. It's too bad its editors weren't around just before World War II. They could have pushed for a stronger National Guard, averting the severe shortage of troops the nation had at a critical moment in history.

'The Hohenfels Experience'..... 20

Two Maryland Army National Guard leg infantry companies spent several days training at the Combat Maneuver Training Center (CMTC) in Hohenfels, Germany. The CMTC has become the last stop for troops headed to Bosnia as part of the NATO's peace Implementation Force. While there, they train inside the box, where conditions simulate actual warfare. One of the companies acted as opposing forces for those trips, playing a critical role in the Army's plan to give every soldier headed for Bosnia "The Hohenfels Experience."

The NGAUS and the D.C. National Guard will host the annual 118th General Conference Sept. 1-3. This year, the Association will honor U.S. Rep. G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery, who is retiring from Congress after three decades of service to the nation. Rep. Montgomery has been a strong supporter of the Guard throughout his tenure.

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COVER: SPC Gary Base, right, and PFC Wayne Berkut of Maryland's Company C, 2d Battalion, 115th Infantry Regiment, assault a building during an exercise at the Combat Maneuver Training Center in Hohenfels, Germany. Story, page 20. Photo by 1st Lt Kevin McAndrews. Emblems of Guard combat divisions targeted for elimination by the Pentagon. Cover by Dennis and Sackett Design.

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