National Guard Association of the United:

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### **FEATURES**

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Silencing military skeptics, Virginia's Charlie Company has returned from duty in Bosnia. For six months, the peace-keeping soldiers guarded a main supply bridge and conducted "presence patrols" in Serbian-held Srbski Brod. Their successful mission in the Balkans earned them praise from Bosnia all the way to Virginia. Because no Guard infantry unit had been operationally deployed for nearly 30 years, many officials questioned the company's capabilities. That criticism is now water under the Sava River bridge.

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More than 50 adjutants general gathered for the annual Adjutants General Association Spring conference in Wichita, Kansas, discussing the Guard's new challenges. They passed 13 resolutions dealing with issues from weapons of mass to destruction to budget cuts and listened to several national leaders talk about the role of the Guard.

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This year's National Guard Association conference will bring military leaders, as well as national politicians, to the Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Community-Based, Globally Oriented, the Guard gears up for yet another century of service. With the heated debate over Defense dollars on Capitol Hill, support for your NGAUS is critical *now* more than ever.

### DEPARTMENTS

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Cover: Infantrymen of Virginia's C Company, 3/116th Infantry, on patrol in Srbski Brod, Bosnia, encountered Bosnian citizens daily. The soldiers were often met by well-wishers, thankful for the security their presence provided (see story on page 16). Photo, SGT Paul Disney (VAARNG). Inset: June 6, 1998, was proclaimed "Charlie Company Day" by the citizens of Leesburg, Virginia. Company Commander CPT Mike Patterson accepts the award (see story on page 16). Photo, Brian Calvert, NATIONAL GUARD. Cover by Dennis and Sackett Design.

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