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NATIONAL GUARD

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As the nation faces strict budget constraints, the National Guard continues its efforts to get the most out of its limited defense dollars to perform the first-line of defense mission it has, nationally and domestically. Extended service programs, which prolong the use of defense equipment, is the Army and Air Guard's secret to 21st century readiness requirements.

Renew DoD's Total Force Commitment 31

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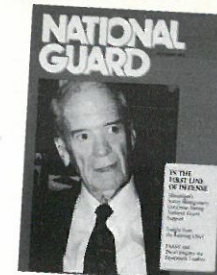
Almost 76 years to the day, the 26th Infantry Division (Yankee) again was standing on the steps of the Old Statehouse, the Massachusetts' state government building, but this time to retire the colors, not march off to war as in 1917. In a somber ceremony, Guard men and women rendered the final salute to the beloved division.

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After more than 30 years as a combat pilot from the Kentucky Air Guard, he reached the top of the career ladder by becoming the chief of the National Guard Bureau. Lt. Gen John B. Conaway retires at the end of this month. He offers his thoughts about the Guard's readiness: where it stands today and where it must go in the future.

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Government legislation to prevent the continued pollution of the nation's air and water is today a leading parameter in how military engines for track and tactical wheeled vehicles are built. Diesel engines might be the answer to most-effective force multiplier and environmentally efficient engines that will get us into the 21st century.



COVER:

Mississippi's Sonny Montgomery is the keynote speaker at the 115th General Conference, conducted this month in Biloxi. Read the Guard combat veteran's thoughts on national defense and the value of a strong National Guard, on page 18. Photo, Maj Jean Marie Beall. Cover, Howard Design.

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