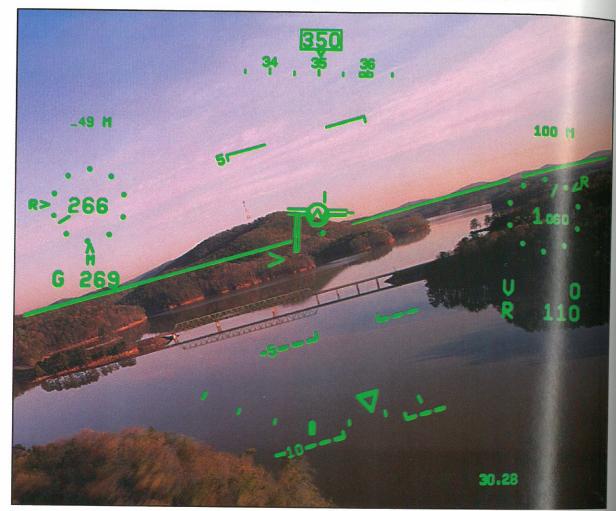
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NATIONAL GUARD



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Features

For five years, the same people, primarily those permanently stationed in Europe, have rotated in and out of Incirlik, Turkey, in support of Operation Provide Comfort. Members of the Air National Guard from across the country are among those who have been instrumental in this ongoing real-world mission, yet another example of the Total Force Policy at work.

The National Guard Association of the United States efficiently and effectively delivers the Association's message to the nation that the Army and Air National Guard are the most cost-effective, accessible and combat-ready reserve force available. We are always prepared to defend nation, state and community. For a complete report on the Association, see our annual reports.

For a democratic government to act responsibly, it is imperative that there be a consistency between national policy and the will of the people. It is especially important when the policy involves the use of armed forces. In the United States, the Guard is an essential part of this balance of power. Without the existence or use of the Guard, the nation treads dangerously toward inconsistency between national security policy and the people's will.

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COVER: TSgt John Krulder of the New York Air National Guard inspects the rear rotor of an aircraft in support of combat search and rescue training in Turkey. For more on the story, see page 14. Photo by Lt Col Mike Waters. Cover by Dennis and Sackett Design.

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