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**Features**

**20 Campaign Stop**

*The appearances of President George W. Bush and Sen. John F. Kerry at the 126th General Conference in Las Vegas pushed NGAUS and the National Guard to the forefront of this year's presidential campaign. But the more than 3,500 Guard officers, family members and other conference attendees did more than just hear from the two candidates for president. They also got a clear picture of where the National Guard has been the past year and a better sense of the challenges that lay in the months ahead.*

**30 WWII Plus 60: Bent, Not Broken**

*Almost exactly 60 years ago the Allies in Europe—including four Guard divisions—were nearly overrun by a tired but determined foe in the last major German offensive of the war. Had Axis forces broken the Allied front and pushed to the Atlantic, the war certainly would have lasted much longer. Instead, Guardsmen and the rest of the Allies regrouped, held and pushed the enemy back to Germany.*

**34 Peaceful Patrol**

*Iraqi insurgents normally focus their attacks on Coalition forces or the new Iraqi National Guard. In Baghdad's Karada district, however, it's not soldiers but residents who are often the most at risk. An affluent area, Karada has a large Christian population and many office-holders in the new government. An Arkansas Army Guard infantry unit helps keep the peace while enjoying the district's relative safety.*

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