The experienced upgrade partner for systems modernization



United Defense customers worldwide have come to expect the quality and reliability that can only come through fifty years of experience in engineering and manufacturing. Now that experience is being applied to upgrade and conversion programs.

Some examples include the M109A6 Paladin. Thoroughly reconstructed from existing M109A2/A3 vehicles, the M109A6 combines improvements in performance, maintainability and survivability. Onboard digital systems now provide day and night operations capability and secure communications. The M88A2 HERCULES, the ODS Bradley and the entire Bradley family, the M9 Armored Earthmover and the M992 Field Artillery Ammunition Support Vehicle are also successes. Each delivers world-class performance, supportability and affordability.



The fact of the matter is. a combat organization is only as good as its least modernized major system. Our experience in upgrading critical systems enables us to tailor a program to meet the customer's

specific force modernization requirements.

Our skills in technology integration and flexible manufacturing mean lower cost, higher quality and rugged durability in the field.

These capabilities are available from United Defense—the experienced upgrade partner for systems modernization.

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FEATURES

An Interview With the New Secretary of Defense
The Air Guard Heads Into the Final Frontier
After three years of preparation, Colorado's 137th Space Warning Squadron is fully operational. This is another step towards the Air Force's formation of the Total Force in combining the Air National Guard and Air Force Space Command.
Crusader Coming Soon
In keeping with its tradition of superior weapons on the battlefield, the Army will begin equipping active and National Guard units with the new Crusader 155mm, self-propelled howitzer and resupply vehicle. A few National Guard units will have the Crusader even before some active units are outfitted with this state-of-the-art artillery.
The C-130 Gunship Mission
A study done by the Office of the Secretary of Defense identified a shortfall in the number of AC-130U gunship missions. To alleviate the shortage, alternatives are being proposed. One such proposal would convert Air National Guard units to gunship missions.

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Cover: Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen presents the Quadrennial Defense Review during a press conference at the Pentagon earlier this year. In this issue, NATIONAL GUARD magazine interviews Secretary Cohen about the Guard's representation in the QDR. Photo, 1st Lt Kevin McAndrews. Cover by Dennis and Sackett Design.

PUBLICATION STAFF

Maj Gen Edward J. Philbin (ret.), Publisher COL David McGinnis, Chief of Staff 1st Lt Kevin McAndrews, Production Manager Pamela A. Kane, Director of Communications Colleen Wolfe, STAFF WRITER/PHOTOGRAPHER Cheryl D. Young, Editorial Assistant

M. Catherine Casper, CPA, CONTROLLER Dennis and Sackett Design, ARTWORK