

ON WATCH.

ON CALL.

ON GUARD.

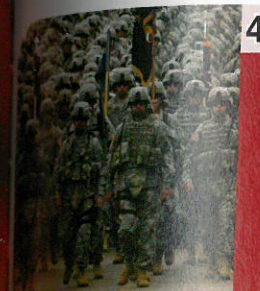
Today, more than ever, the men and women of the National Guard stand vigilant in the defense of freedom. At Boeing, we're proud to stand with the Guard every day in their vital mission.



NATIONAL GUARD

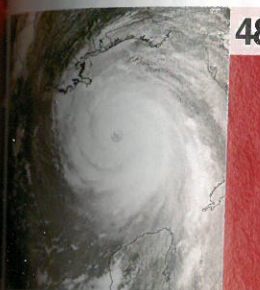
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42 Indelible Mark

On Sept. 11, 2001, the Guard began a no-notice transformation from a strategic reserve to an operational force, writes Lt. Gen. H Steven Blum, National Guard Bureau chief. The five years since have changed forever the Guard, and the way America looks at its Guard.



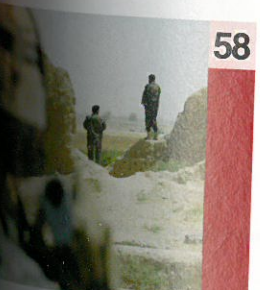
48 East of Big Easy

Twelve months after Katrina, the nation is reflecting on the storm's devastation, the response and all of its continuing impact on Gulf Coast residents and institutions. Much of the attention will be focused on New Orleans. But the story from Mississippi is just as compelling.



54 Shrinking Fleet

With the Base Realignment and Closure decisions now law, the Air National Guard has begun a massive shuffle of planes, missions and jobs. The realignments will cut the Air Guard's aircraft fleet by about 15 percent. Other impacts, say officials, are not so easy to quantify.



58 Side By Side

Standing up a new army is a daunting mission, especially when there are massive cultural differences between trainer and trainee. But some Army National Guard soldiers are getting the job done in Afghanistan. All it has taken is a unique level of cooperation, persistence and trust.

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