



## THE LOCKHEED F-104 STARFIGHTER

—world's fastest, highest-flying operational airplane

Lockheed's ultrasonic "missile with a man in it" can outrace the sun from New York to San Francisco. When necessary, it can zoom into the upper stratosphere to perform its vital day-and-night missions.

Less than 55 feet long, with knife-sharp 7½-foot wings, the F-104 *Starfighter* packs awesome firepower. Each wing tip can carry a Sidewinder missile—which is guided to its target by an infrared track-

ing device (which "feels" the presence of other aircraft by the heat they radiate).

No other fighter plane in USAF history has been so thoroughly performance-proved before entering service. For over three years Air Force and Lockheed pilots, engineers and scientists have subjected the F-104 *Starfighter*, its electronic components and armament to the most punishing tests they could devise. This new pre-service

procedure assures maximum utilization of the F-104—starting with its very first mission for the Air Defense Command.

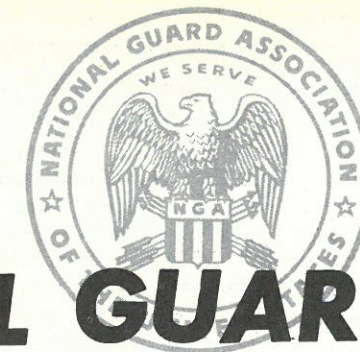
### LOCKHEED means leadership

Lockheed Aircraft Corporation  
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# NOW IN SERVICE!

with the 83rd Fighter-Interceptor Squadron, Air Defense Command, USAF, Hamilton AFB, California

THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN



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**DEAR GUARDSMEN:** As part of our efforts to present a "balanced diet" in THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN, we try to have at least one or two "free-lance-written" articles in every issue, on subjects of a military nature. If there's a direct National Guard "angle," all the better, but we like to hit the bigger picture, too.

A gratifying number of Guardsmen have the gift of being able to express themselves in black-and-white, and we'd welcome the works of all who have something to say and know how to say it. At the same time, we always have been receptive to free-lance writers, with or without a Guard connection, whose articles might interest substantial numbers of Guardsmen.

We, as Editors, don't necessarily agree with every thought that's expressed in every "by-lined" article, and it's doubtful that all our readers would agree with everything, either; but if the writer has stimulated some brain cells, that's all to the good, we feel. By the same token, all such articles don't automatically reflect the National Guard Assn's policies—those are determined by the annual General Conference in the form of Resolutions, digests of which always are published in THE NATIONAL GUARDSMAN.

THE STAFF

**OUR COVER:** The Army's new Combat Arms Regimental System isn't a simple thing to illustrate; we couldn't think of any photo that would convey the idea. But we put the problem to Artist Lou Nolan. His imaginative mind and talented hands have translated the idea into an image.

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