As long as we live in an uncertain world, we’ll both be needed.

No other company understands the uncertainties of military life better than USAA. Whether you’re involved in a rapid deployment or have just received PCS orders, we go where you go. And we’re diversified enough to handle all of your financial needs—from banking and investments, to life and health insurance and annuities. Call us today.

- 24 Hour Claims Reporting
- Highly-Ranked Claims Service
- Free Rate Quotes
- No Membership Fees
- Flexible Payment Plans
- Money Saving Discounts and Credits
- A+ Rated by A.M. Best
- No Down Payment

The USAA family of companies offers insurance to commissioned and warrant officers of the U.S. military and their dependents. USAA also offers insurance to active-duty enlisted personnel in Germany, as well as those with PCS orders to Germany. Coverage is also available to enlisted personnel in other states. See America, Colorado, Delaware, Illinois, North Dakota, Ohio, and South Dakota. Coverage to enlistees in other states will be extended gradually on a location-by-location basis. In addition, rates and availability of pre-commissioning programs are subject to change.

1-800-531-8973

The National Guard Association of the United States

NATIONAL
GUARD
June 1997
Volume 51, Number 6
www.ngaus.org

FEATURES

Taking the Fight to Congress ........................................... 12
MG Richard C. Alexander, the NGAUS president and the adjutant general of Ohio, was joined by three other adjutants general in testimony on Capitol Hill. In addition to sharing their concerns over the $74.5 billion shortfall facing the National Guard in the fiscal year 1998 defense budget request, the adjutant generals answered questions from the concerned leaders who sit on the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Las Vegas Hosts Air Force Fifty ..................................... 14
The NGAUS participated in the U.S. Air Force’s 50th anniversary celebration by conducting its Spring Executive Council meeting in conjunction with Air Force Fifty in Las Vegas. More than 10,000 members of the Air Force family gathered for the celebration April 22-26. The NGAUS also set up a special display that boasted the Air National Guard’s contributions to the rich heritage of our nation’s flying force. Air Force Fifty was the largest event in the year-long celebration. It included one of the most spectacular air shows in the service’s history, and was a time for old friends to reunite.

Strong Resolve Against Guard Cuts ................................ 18
The Department of the Army brought disenchanting news to National Guard leaders during the Adjutants General Association of the United States Spring Conference in Oklahoma City. It’s common knowledge that force structure cuts are on the horizon, but it came as a shock to learn that the Army wants to cut 38,000 more Army Guard troops.

DEPARTMENTS

President’s Message .................................................. 4
Newsbreaks ..................................................................... 8
Views From The Field .................................................. 5
Tellines ........................................................................ 11
Capital Focus .............................................................. 6

Cover: Adjutants general from left: BGen Daniel J. Hall, Texas; MG Raymond F. Ross, Oregon; MG Jacob Lees, Alaska; and MG Richard C. Alexander, Ohio. Stand with Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Ted Stevens (R-Alaska) following a hearing on Capitol Hill. Inset: WO2 Richard Richardson was one of several veterans on hand for Air Force Fifty in Las Vegas. Photos by Christopher J. Anderson. Inset photo courtesy of Planes of Fame Air Museum. Cover by Dennis and Sackett Design.

PUBLICATION STAFF

Maj Gen Edward J. Philbin (ret.), PUBLISHER
Pamela A. Korn, Director of Communications
Christopher J. Anderson, PRODUCTION MANAGER
M. Catherine Casper, CPA, CONTROLLER
Lt Col Kevin McAndrews, SENIOR EDITOR/WRITER
R. Glenn Ross, WRITING STAFF
Cheryl D. Young, EDITOR, ASSISTANT
Dennis and Sackett Design, ARTWORK