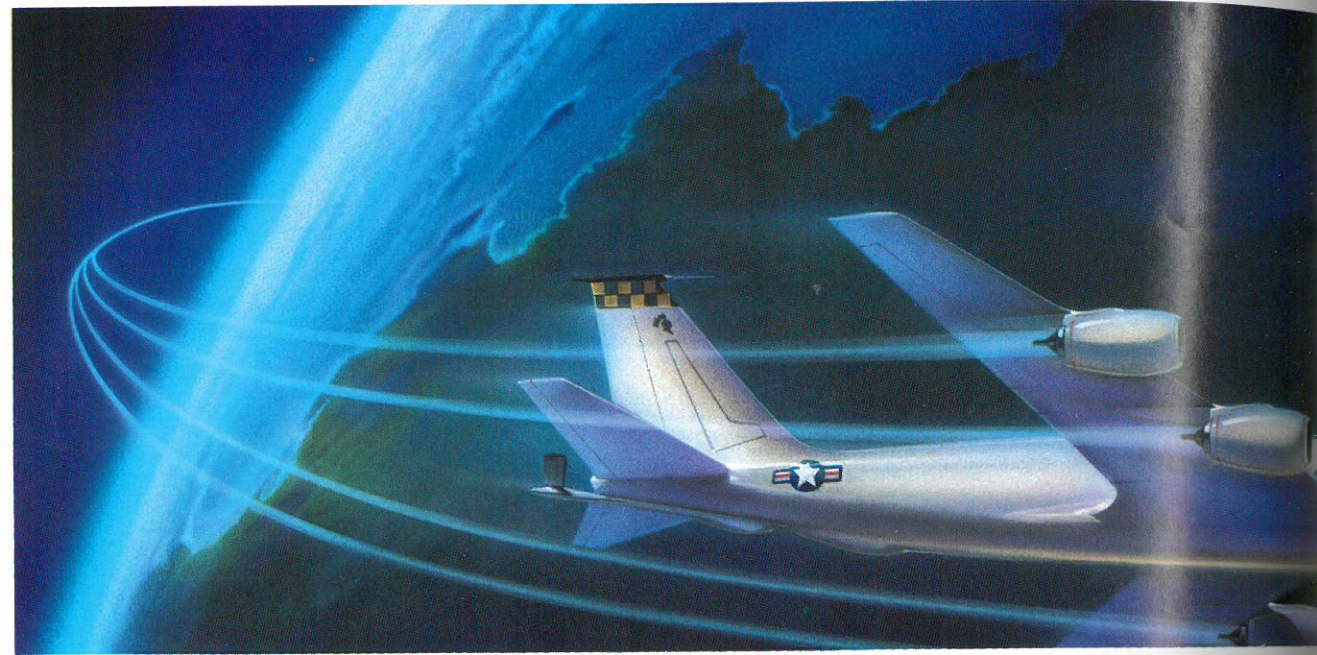


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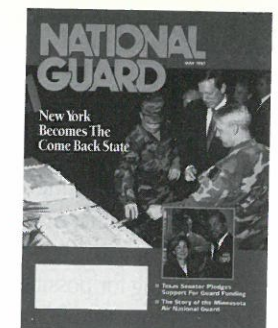
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FEATURES

Minnesota Air Guard's Beginnings 12
 Seventy-five years ago while discussing the National Guard over a cup of coffee, three men formulated an idea for a National Guard aero squadron for their state. With the determination of these three men, and a rented bi-plane, what began as a great idea would eventually become the 109th Airlift Squadron, Minnesota Air National Guard.

Revival In The Empire State 14
 With the help of many National Guard members, New York Governor George Pataki has instituted a number of measures designed to revive the Army National Guard in his state. Through Governor Pataki's efforts, the New York Army Guard has turned itself around and is now more vibrant and active than it has been for years. The dedication displayed in this turn-around has implications for every state and territory that is trying to keep the citizen soldier concept alive and kicking.

Texas Proves Guard Divisions Can Mobilize 20
 Contrary to the assumptions of many, Guard combat divisions have proven their viability as part of the Total Force. Recently, an Institute for Defense Analysis (IDA) study conducted with the assistance of the Texas Army National Guard's 49th Armored Division, showed that a Guard division is capable of quickly mobilizing to support the active component in a major regional contingency.

DEPARTMENTS

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Cover: New York Governor George Pataki celebrates the survival of the 204th Engineer Battalion, New York Army Guard with unit members. Inset, Texas adjutant general, Brig Gen Daniel James III, presents Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson (R-Texas) with a copy of the NGAUS "smart card" at a recent Texas National Guard Association breakfast in Washington. The card outlines the Army Guard's need for \$743 million to be added to its budget this fiscal year. Cover photo by MAJ Paul Fanning, NYARNG. Cover by Dennis and Sackett Design.

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