INTRODUCING THE C-27J SPARTAN.
THE AIRLIFTER FOR THE U.S. ARMY AND ARMY NATIONAL GUARD.

Supporting the warfighter and sustaining ground operations calls for a rugged military aircraft developed from the ground up for fast mobilization and deployment. The C-27J Spartan answers that call—anytime, anywhere, in any weather. Able to disperse effortlessly into short, unimproved airfields, the capabilities and efficiencies of the C-27J Spartan meet the surging, dynamic, and personnel transport needs of the Objective Force like no other aircraft. Add the fact that it’s fully interoperable with current Army rotary wing assets, and it’s clear the C-27J Spartan takes air mobility to a different plane.

Features

20 Silver Lining
After more than 20 years of development, the Army announced it would kill the Comanche stealth helicopter program. The $14 billion now available should stay in the Army to impact aircraft modernization. While the Guard should benefit with new aircraft and equipment over the next several years, some Guard officials remain cautious about the projects true impact.

24 Cadillac Conversion
The removal of the last C-141 from the Tennessee’s 164th Airlift Wing in April signaled the beginning of a new era as Air Mobility Command will relocate eight C-5 Galaxy aircraft beginning on or after Oct. 1, 2004. With the new aircraft comes new training and new facilities for the Memphis-based wing.

26 End in Sight?
NATO officials announced in February that the Bosnia mission established with the Dayton Peace Accords in 1995 could end at the end of 2004. While the Bosnia mission was a burden for some individual Guardsmen, the mission helped define and highlight the Guard’s role as part of the Total Force.

28 A Good Bet
While most people think of Vegas as a gambling mecca, attendees to the 12th NGAUS General Conference will find 24-hour, non-stop entertainment without the need to say, “Hit me!” at the blackjack table. Back in Las Vegas for the third time—the first time since 1998—in frequent visitors might find several changes.

Departments

Starting Point .............................................. 2
Mail Call .................................................. 6
Washington Update ..................................... 10
Newsbreaks ............................................... 14
State Roundup .......................................... 32
Association News ...................................... 36