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NATIONAL GUARD

Features

20 Preventing the Next One
Suddenly, the nation is at war and facing the unfamiliar task of homeland security. A smart first step for the National Guard might be to set up a recruiting station outside the headquarters of Microsoft Corporation. President Bush has warned that this is a different kind of war. To fight it, the nation may need a very different kind of warrior.

26 State vs. Federal
For thousands of National Guard members called to active duty as part of the presidential mobilization, figuring out pay, allowances and benefits should be pretty straightforward. But what about the folks called up for state missions? All active duty is not created equal.

28 Déjà Vu
To most Americans, Guard involvement in the active defense of local communities is new. But from a historical perspective, Guardsmen have often served as a first-line deterrent. Early in the Cold War, Guard antiaircraft artillery and missiles helped protect America's skies.

47 Out to Sea
Tugboats strain as they pull a small aircraft carrier away from its pier. As the Pacific Ocean slowly swallows the vast, curious aviators and infantrymen watch sailors humbly tow the ship's gigantic lines. This is certainly not the usual method of beginning a Texas Army Guard exercise. But such training is not so unusual anymore either.

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On the cover Kentucky Army Guard Spec. Wally Meredith dons a protective mask during post-mobilization training at Fort Knox, Ky. His outfit, the 1st Battalion, 149th Infantry, is one of several Guard units called nationwide for homeland-security duty. (Spenser Heaps)