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the air national guard faces some turbulent times in the coming
years. but the skies ahead are relatively tranquil compared to the
early years of the organization, which was formally established as
a separate reserve component 60 years ago this month.

28 a conversation with
maj. gen. frank vavala
national guard, spoke with the new adjutant general association
president last month. guard empowerment in the pentagon and
continuing the evolution to a more joint force top his agenda.

32 simply complex
guard soldiers and airmen play an increasing role in
unmanned aerial vehicles as the u.s. military
prepares to welcome a fighter, stronger and more
lethal generation of the pilotless aircraft to the force.

36 gallery of guardsman
missouri national guard history features dozens of
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extraordinary things, including a popular wartime president
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