



# ARMY NATIONAL GUARD HISTORY



1636



1776



1863



1918



1944



1969



2005

## *Always Ready, Always There*

- Direct descendent of the militias of the 13 English colonies; oldest component of the U.S. military, with units dating back to 1636
- According to U.S. Constitution, both a state and federal force, under control of the governor unless called to active service by the President
- Has fought in every American war, from 1636 to present combat in Afghanistan
- Provided 18 combat divisions to the American Expeditionary Forces in World War I and 19 infantry divisions that served in either the European or Asiatic-Pacific Theatre in World War II
- Has mobilized more than 500,000 soldiers for federal missions since Sept. 11, 2001
- At one point in 2005, Army National Guard brigades made up more than 50% of U.S. Army combat brigades in Iraq, the Army Guard's largest combat role since WWII
- In its state role, a key player in homeland defense and disaster relief; within two weeks of Hurricane Katrina's landfall, more than 42,000 Army National Guard troops from across the country were deployed to the Gulf Coast for relief operations