

## **Fielding of UH/HH-60M Blackhawk Helicopters to ARNG**

### **What is it?**

The UH/HH-60M Blackhawk is a state-of-the-art aircraft being fielded to the ARNG to progressively modernize the Utility helicopter fleet. The aircraft provides a fully digitized platform that integrates the latest developments in navigation/communication systems with many other improvements to increase crashworthiness, safety, and situational awareness for the aircrew members.

### **What has the Army done?**

The Army has authorized Modified Table of Organization & Equipment (MTOE) growth for the ARNG UH-60 fleet from 788 to 849 aircraft by FY17. The current MTOE authorization is for 60 UH-60M aircraft already fielded and steady growth each year as these aircraft are available. FY11 fielding schedules increased the fleet by an additional 45 UH/HH-60M aircraft. This growth strategy will complete modernization requirements established by Headquarters, Department of the Army in increasing the medical evacuation companies from 12 to 15 ship configurations.

### **What continuing efforts does the Army have planned?**

The Army plans to field to the Army National Guard a total of 132 UH/HH-60Ms by FY14. This effort combined with other modernization efforts such as the A-A-L Recap converting UH-60As to UH-60Ls will complete ARNG modernization plans for the near future. These efforts will reduce the aging UH-60A aircraft fleet and provide for more modern platforms capable of supporting missions in our current operating environment.

### **Why is this important to the Army?**

The UH/HH-60M will provide the ARNG improved Security, increased situational awareness increasing the overall safety of our most valued asset "our Soldiers." Additionally, these aircraft will provide our Combat Aviation Brigades with increased capabilities for conducting full spectrum CONUS and OCONUS operations.