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On the Cover

The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) marks its 15th anniversary in 2011, but naturally recollects the tradecrafts and talent that assembled under the aegis of the National Imagery and Mapping Agency in 1996. The cover of this anniversary issue recalls not only the recent success against Osama bin Laden, but also successes involving the Cuban missile crisis, Corona, Medmenham and with Commonwealth partners, tsunami relief activities, and the origins of imagery analysis in the photo interpretation of World War II. As geospatial intelligence itself emerges from a synthesis of many sources, so too NGA's history must mark both the coming together 15 years ago and those skills each professional ancestor brought to the new agency. Read more about NGA's history online at www.nga.mil. Cover design by Amy Battison using NGA Historical Research Center images.

On the Back Cover

At right, first responders stand atop the Pentagon during the Pentagon Memorial dedication ceremony Sept. 11, 2008, at the spot where American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the building on Sept. 11, 2001, killing 59 people aboard the flight and 125 in the building. At left is a photo of the World Trade Center site, taken on Sept. 23, 2001, at an altitude of 3,300 feet. The World Trade Center was destroyed in the Sept. 11 terrorist attack. Back cover design by Amy Battison using a Department of Defense photo of the Pentagon by U.S. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Jennifer Villalovos, and a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration image of the World Trade Center.



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Urban Terrain Zone maps: depicted here is the Penn State University Campus.



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