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Quarterly Magazine for the Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs



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needs of 16- to 18-year-old Alaskans and is located at Camp Carroll on Fort Richardson. Photo: Ken Fankhauser, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs

The Alaska Military Youth Academy Class of 2006-1. The Alaska Military Youth Academy is part of the National Guard's Youth Challenge Program, which helps at-risk youth get back on track with their lives and produces program graduates with the values, skills, education and self-discipline necessary to succeed as adults. The Youth Challenge program is a 22-week residential school based on the traditional military training model. The Alaska Military Youth Academy serves the



Top Award for America's Most Patriotic Day. Cadets win top parade award for Anchorage's 4th of July activities. The cadets have earned high recognition in each of the parades they've taken part in. Photo: Courtesy of Alaska Military Youth Academy

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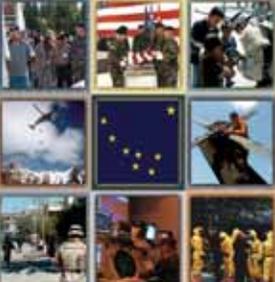
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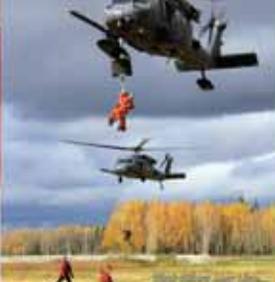


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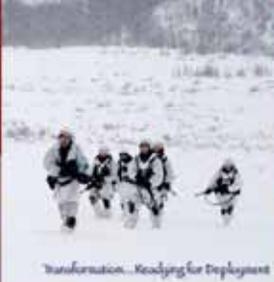
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# Dispatches from the Front...

## Alaska National Guard Soldiers Killed in Vehicle Accident *Governor Murkowski, Senior Guard Leaders Express Grief Over Loss of Soldiers*

### CAMP SHELBY, Mississippi ...

Sergeant First Class George William Dauma, Jr., 37, of Fairbanks, and Sergeant First Class William Franklin Brown, 54, of Barrow, died from a traffic accident on U.S. Highway 98 while driving between training locations.

*"We shall miss them greatly."*

– Brigadier General Craig N. Christensen

Second Lieutenant Pritkal Aujla, 26, and Staff Sergeant William Schultz, 31, were also injured in the crash. Both are being treated at Forrest General Hospital and are listed in stable condition.

"I am deeply saddened by the loss of these two fine Soldiers," said Governor Frank H. Murkowski. "These Soldiers were doing a great service to our state, our country and the world, by defending peace and freedom for all."

"The Alaska National Guard family has suffered a huge loss," said Major General Craig E. Campbell, Adjutant General of the Alaska National Guard. "Sergeant Brown has been with us for 30 years."

"Both of these Soldiers were experienced, dependable and relied upon leaders," Campbell said. "We join with their families, friends and fellow Guardmembers grieving over this loss."

The Soldiers are from A Company, 1st Battalion – they are assigned with 3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry. The two injured Alaska Guardsmen will most likely be returning to training with their unit.

"I have served with Sergeant First Class Dauma and Sergeant First Class Brown for a number of years, and both are among the finest men," said Brigadier General Craig N. Christensen. "I personally notified family members, and we reflected upon the impact these men have made on the lives of many. We shall miss them greatly."

Murkowski ordered Alaska State flags to half-staff in honor of Dauma and Brown. ■



Remembrance of Fallen Warriors. Sergeant First Class George Dauma, Jr., Fairbanks, and Sergeant First Class William Brown, Barrow, were honored during a memorial service held at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. More than 600 Alaskan Soldiers – members of the 3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry, paid their personal respects to the fallen warriors. The ceremony included a 21-gun salute. Alaska State flags were ordered to half-staff through July 31 by Governor Frank H. Murkowski in tribute to the sacrifice of these two men. The Soldiers are members of A Company.

*Editor's Note:* We have lost two members of our family. Each Soldier was a distinguished member of the Alaska Army National Guard. The untimely deaths of Sergeant First Class George Dauma and Sergeant First Class William Brown happened as *Warriors* magazine was going to press. Though the accident that caused their deaths is under investigation and has received wide public coverage, we wanted to take time to acknowledge and honor them on this page. We will provide a more detailed story in the fall edition of *Warriors*.

– Major Mike Haller

# Where in the World

News Briefs by Kalei Brooks,  
DMVA Public Affairs

## Alaska Army National Guard Readies for Historical Deployment

*Nearly 600 Soldiers Head to Iraqi Theater of War on Terror*

### CAMP DENALI, Alaska . . .

The Alaska Army National Guard is preparing to send about 600 Soldiers to Iraq in what will be the largest overseas deployment of Alaska National Guard members in the organization's history.

In early July, waves of Soldiers from all across Alaska headed out to Camp Shelby, Miss., for an estimated three months of pre-deployment training. After this training is completed, nearly 600 Alaska Army National Guard Soldiers from 3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry will ship out to Iraq for a one-year tour of duty.

*297th Regiment Crest... is the only crest with a Native American language motto of any activated Army unit.*

"Things are going well, morale is high and people are motivated," said Lieutenant Colonel Duff Mitchell, commander of the 3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry.

Once the troops arrive overseas, they will be providing security for Coalition forces. The mission includes duties such as security checkpoint patrols, building raids and convoy escorts.

The Alaska Soldiers are divided into five companies of approximately 80 to 130 Soldiers each. Most are slated to be stationed in Iraq, but mission requirements may move Soldiers throughout the



**Best Wishes.** Governor Frank Murkowski spoke to the Soldiers of Alpha, Bravo and Delta Companies of 3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry before they headed to Camp Shelby, Miss., for three months of pre-deployment training. These Army National Guard members are slated to spend one year in Iraq after they complete their training in Mississippi. Photo: Ken Fankhauser, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs



**Ride On.** Team Air Guard ready for the ride of their lives at the 2006 Clean Air Challenge. They were one of the top three donators, raising more than \$11,000 for the American Lung Association. The 120-mile long Clean Air Challenge is one of the premier cycling events in Alaska. The team had more than 25 enthusiastic riders successfully complete the route.

Photo: Chief Master Sergeant Dan Slekawitch, Alaska Air Guard



**Marathon Guardmembers.** On May 7, Alaska Air National Guard members from the 168th Air Refueling Wing and the 176th Wing competed in the 2006 National Guard Lincoln Marathon in Lincoln, Neb. From left to right with respective finish times: Technical Sergeant Shane Garling (3:09:35), Technical Sergeant John Brunberg (3:32:33), Staff Sergeant Jason DeHeus (3:03:03) and Captain Paulette Goodwin (3:33:53). DeHeus, Brunberg and Goodwin all set new personal records in the marathon. DeHeus and Goodwin each earned one of the 55 spots on the All Guard Recruiting and Retention Marathon Team, and they will represent the National Guard as they compete with the team throughout the year in various running events.

Photo: Courtesy of Nebraska National Guard

theater and into Kuwait.

The 297th Regiment crest (the crest that is used for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Battalions in Alaska) is the only crest with a Native American language motto of any activated Army unit. The motto, Yuk Yek, is Tlingit (from Southeast Alaska) and translates to "Be on Watch, Ready to Fire."

"We have a lot of multi-generation service in the Alaska National Guard," Mitchell said. "Many of our Soldiers are descendents of the Muktuk Marston era and the old 297th Infantry. Our Soldiers are proud of their heritage and roots." ■

## About 80 Soldiers Take the Lead in Afghanistan

*Mission: Command and Control Thousands of Troops*

### CAMP DENALI, Alaska . . .

About 80 Alaska Army National Guard members from the 207th Infantry Brigade Headquarters and 297th Support Battalion Headquarters said their goodbyes at a May 26 deployment ceremony as they prepared to leave for

School Help in Kabul. Lieutenant Colonel David Bassett, handed out backpacks full of school supplies at the Afghan Street Children and New Approach School-Shernow Center June 9. A recent fire at the trade school destroyed nearly all the students' supplies. Bassett, a member of the Joint Forces Headquarters, Alaska National Guard, at Camp Denali, is deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The Merritt Island, Fla., native is serving a one-year tour with Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan as a mentor to the Afghanistan Ministry of Defense. Photo: Air Force Technical Sergeant Matt Summers



## Alaska Air National Guard Deploys More Airmen to Afghanistan

### 144th Airlift Squadron, 176th Maintenance Group Sustain Efforts

**KULIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE, Alaska...** Another group of about 50 Airmen from the Alaska Air National Guard's 144th Airlift Squadron and 176th Maintenance Group deployed to Afghanistan in July.

This deployment is part of a year-long mission in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The two units began a rotating deployment schedule back in January with individual Airmen spending about two months in Afghanistan. Most members of the 144th Airlift Squadron deploy for a couple of months, come home for a few months, then return to the desert for another couple of months.

"It's been a really good deployment with a high operations tempo," said Lieutenant Colonel Patty Wilbanks, commander of the 176th Maintenance Squadron. "The maintainers are enjoying their time over there because they're feeling as if they're contributing to a good mission, and most would go again."

At any given time, there are about 70 to 80 members deployed from Kulis. They're flying a mix of airlift and air drop missions.

"We're using both the airplane (a C-130 Hercules) and the training we've been given to the maximum extent possible to get the job done," said Lieutenant Colonel Tom Lawrence, commander of the 144th Airlift Squadron. "We're flying into high altitude areas with landing strips and doing air drops 7,000 to 9,000 feet [above ground], which is something unique."

Alaska Guardmembers are performing superbly and are highly motivated. ■

Washington, D.C.



**One Last Hug.** Technical Sergeant Christopher Wetzler, a maintenance technician with the 176th Maintenance Group at Kulis Air National Guard Base, said goodbye to his wife before deploying to Afghanistan in early July. He will deploy for about two months before returning home. Photo: Ken Fankhauser, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs



**Building A Future.** Major Ken Blaylock, center, assists Iraqi construction workers and youth as they join in building a new school. Alaska National Guard Soldiers of the 1st Battalion are volunteering their time to assist Iraqis in their villages.

Photo: Courtesy of 1st Battalion, 297th Infantry

**Veterans Honored In D.C.** Staff Sergeant Howard A. Venable, a firefighter with the Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Civil Engineer Squadron, represented Alaska along with Sergeant John Chriswell, a public affairs non-commissioned officer with the Alaska Army National Guard's 117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, at several Memorial Day events in Washington, D.C. The two Alaska National Guard members were honored for their deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Photo: Ken Fankhauser, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs



Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The Guardmembers will be in Afghanistan for one year, and their mission is significant. The Alaskans are working with military members from several other countries, in addition to working with people from all branches of service.

"They are commanding about 3,000 U.S. forces in southern Afghanistan," said Colonel Mike Bridges, deputy commander of the 207th Infantry Brigade.

"They're doing everything from

supporting the reconstruction teams to working with coalition forces in assisting the country with rebuilding, as well as commanding operations at a major base in southern Afghanistan.

"They've been training like crazy and have really come together as a cohesive team," Bridges said.

This deployment is also part of the Alaska Army National Guard transformation from a Cold War era Scout group to an infantry brigade combat team.

"We're reconfiguring into these mission sets," Bridges added. ■



# Moving Forward

Governor Frank H. Murkowski  
Commander in Chief



## Duty, Honor...

### *Obvious Among Deployed Guardmembers in Iraq and Afghanistan*

This summer Alaskans showed their patriotism in a unique fashion, the moving Vietnam Memorial Wall has made its way across our state. Alaska is known for its support of the military, and I'm sure many of you visited the wall in support of our Soldiers and veterans.

We live in a beautiful state that is part of a beautiful country, where freedom is worn on the sleeves of our shirts and experienced every day of our lives. We also have an obligation to our fellow human beings: offer a chance to choose a free society.

This summer, the Alaska National Guard is giving millions of people a chance to mature and develop their own free government. Troops are deployed in Iraq and Afghanistan, supporting the active duty Army and Air Force, fighting the War on Terror.

These deployments are hard on spouses, families and communities; but our Guardsmen know in their hearts the service they're providing is right and just. Alaskans support them.

It is important we embrace our veterans upon their return home. To show them that we care, and we are thankful for their sacrifices to ensure our freedom and offer a chance for others to share this gift.

The Alaska Military Youth Academy is a fantastic example of how freedom changes lives. These cadets are volunteering to take a course that is full of rigors and hurdles. Some feel the challenge is too great and leave before they can prove themselves. Others stay and earn the success of changing from a potential life of crime to prosperity and possibilities.

I have fond memories of meeting many cadets at the academy and in Juneau, and I have even met a graduate at the White House!

Freedom is a gift we should not take for granted, but share and enjoy with everyone. Take the time to show your patriotism and make this a summer of honor and a season of gratitude. ■



Alaska Patriots. Governor Frank H. Murkowski joined members of the Alaska Army National Guard B Company, 207th Aviation, at the Forward Operating Base in Tal Afar, Iraq, in June. The aviators are part of Task Force 1-101 AVN, No Mercy, and have been deployed overseas since August 2005. Photo: Courtesy of Department of Defense



# My Turn

**Major General Craig E. Campbell**  
Adjutant General, Alaska National Guard & Commissioner,  
Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs



## **PATRIOTS' SEASON:** ALASKA'S SONS & DAUGHTERS **STEP FORWARD**

The roots of patriotic service run deep in the lives of Alaskans. These are honorable young men and women who step forward. They know that with the privilege of living in a republic comes the need to defend it.

Patriotism is evident in the manner with which members of our own Alaska National Guard Soldiers and Airmen are conducting themselves. Never have so many of us deployed overseas to war zones.

We have more than 400 Soldiers and Airmen presently in Iraq and Afghanistan. About 600 more Soldiers are joining the group we have deployed to Iraq. Many, many others have previously deployed in small units or as individuals since the War on Terror began.

The roots of patriotic service are found in our homes, among our neighborhoods and within our communities. Alaskans have a vivid example: it was our elders who enthusiastically answered the call to defend the Territory of Alaska in World War II, and later served on the frontlines of the Cold War.

Alaska is a land of character and characters. According to First Lieutenant Chris Raabe, a platoon leader with the 2nd Battalion, 297th Infantry, "When our units arrived from the villages their strength was at 107 percent. Soldiers came to the airport that did not have official orders but they wanted to go with their buddies."

The willingness to be counted on rests deeply in the hearts and minds of these young men and women who serve Alaska and our nation so well. A young Soldier, when congratulated about his willingness to step forward, said, "This is what we've trained to do, of course we're going to do our part, it is our duty, our responsibility to our families."

As much as the individual Guardmembers serve, we note the equal selflessness of their families and friends. Our Guard families are responding to the urgent call of our nation. It is not easy to pick up the shield and carry forward on the homefront, yet these family members – wives, husbands, parents and grandparents, brothers and sisters, and children serve with equal distinction. They, too, exemplify true patriotic service in this time of war.

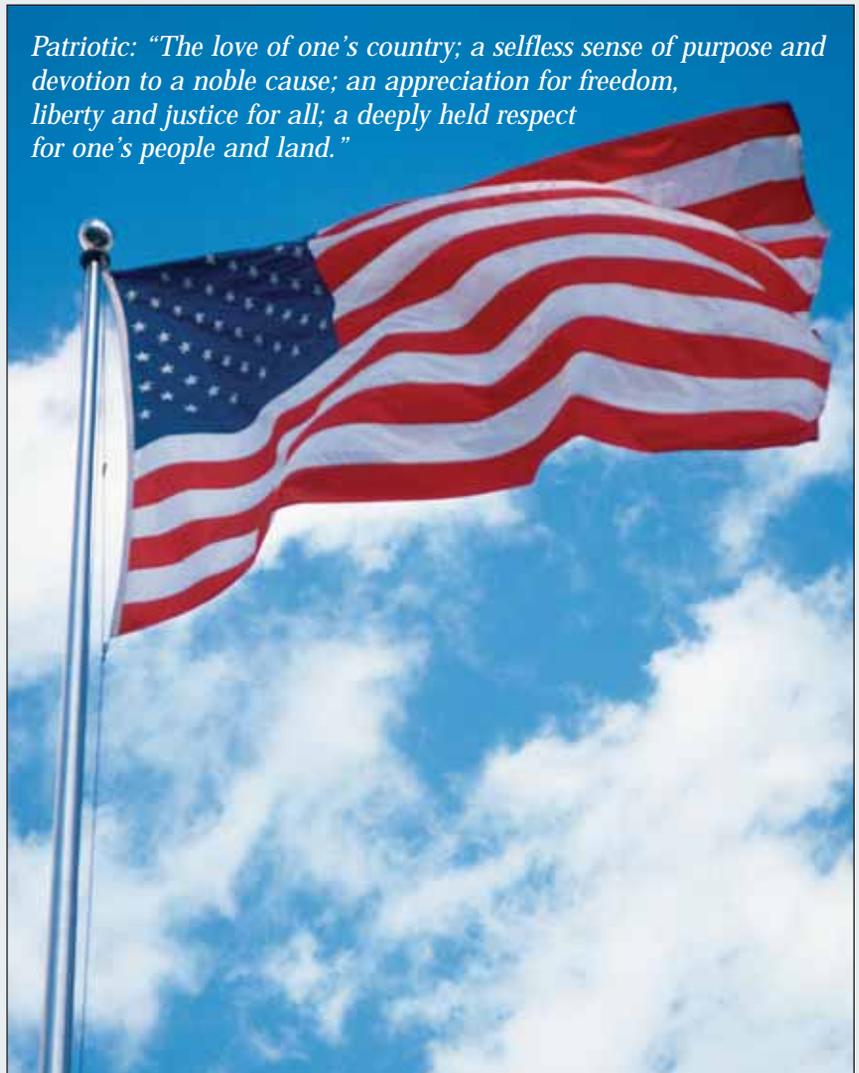
It has been said many times, in several ways,

when the Guard goes to war, America goes to war. We see this in the eyes of our neighbors.

We hear it in the voices of support that we receive. Patriotism is alive and well – it courses through our blood. It causes us to be counted upon when our people and our country need us.

What we are each doing to oppose America's enemies – enemies of freedom, liberty and justice – matters. The true quality and character of patriotic service is indivisible. ■

*Patriotic: "The love of one's country; a selfless sense of purpose and devotion to a noble cause; an appreciation for freedom, liberty and justice for all; a deeply held respect for one's people and land."*





# Veterans

## MOVING WALL *Moves Through Alaska*

By Christine Nangle, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs

The Moving Wall, a half-size model of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., traveled throughout Alaska early this summer.

The Memorial pays homage to the 58,253 U.S. service men and women killed in the Vietnam War.

The Moving Wall has been displayed in more than 1,000 communities across the country and viewed by millions of Americans.

In Alaska, the Moving Wall visited Fairbanks, Wasilla, Eagle River, Kodiak, Cordova, Auke Bay and Bethel. Locals



# Alaska Territorial Guard Update

## WWII Veterans Are Gaining Recognition and Benefits

By McHugh Pierre, DMVA Director of Communications

were able to view the Wall at their own pace and find the names of Vietnam casualties.

"One Eagle River couple used the occasion to visit their son, now a name on the Wall; families across Alaska had similar experiences," said State Veterans Affairs Administrator Jerry Beale.

The list of names on the Moving Wall continues to grow; four people were added this year alone. The people touched by the Moving Wall spreads with every community it visits.

The Moving Wall was built as a replica of the Memorial in Washington, D.C. Retired Chief Warrant Officer Five Roger Stickney, who served in Vietnam, and visited the Memorial said seeing the Wall with the endless list of names really touched his heart.

"Going to visit the Moving Wall is a pretty emotional experience. It made me reflect on my colleagues who didn't make it home after Vietnam," Stickney said. "It makes me wonder why the tables weren't turned – and it gives me the chance to remember the ultimate price we pay for freedom."

The Moving Wall was created in 1984, two years after the original Wall dedication in Washington, D.C. John Devitt, the individual responsible for spearheading the Moving Wall, attended the 1982 dedication, and he felt the healing power of The Wall.

Devitt vowed to take that healing to people who did not have the opportunity to go to Washington, D.C. Americans across the nation now share the intense experience and emotion the Moving Wall evokes. Three different Moving Walls now travel the United States, spending about a week at each location. ■

**Remembering When.** Retired Chief Master Sergeant Emit Heidemann, Purple Heart recipient, took a photo of the Moving Wall in Eagle River. His photo is of a fallen brother's name he served with during the Vietnam War. Heidemann said every time he visits the Wall he has a different experience. "One time I found the names of the men I served with, and I cried, and cried and cried ... I couldn't stop," Heidemann said. "Another time I was happy because I thought of all the good times I shared with these men; we shared a lot of laughs. I am glad the Moving Wall came to Alaska for the experiences it provided me."

Photo: Ken Fankhauser, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs

The Alaska Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is signing up the entire surviving Alaska Territorial Guard members for veterans benefits.

Can you imagine working for years, but not receiving the benefits you are entitled? Many of these folks served during the World War II conflicts on Alaska soil. Once they finished their tour of duty, they were told they could go home and keep their rifle. Now hundreds are being issued their separation papers and certificates of service signed by Major General Craig E. Campbell, the Adjutant General.

"This has been such a wonderful experience for me, personally," said Jerry Beale, State Veterans Affairs Administrator.

During a trip to Barrow in June, Beale visited the home of an elder, who had served in the Alaska Territorial Guard. He and Beale exchanged some pleasantries, and the gentleman described his Alaska Territorial Guard duties for his guests, illustrating what it was like during the 1940s in Alaska.

Beale signed him up on the spot. "He'll be getting his papers from the Army in the next six months," said Beale.

The Veterans Affairs folks have been seeing great success, signing up some 66 members in the last two months alone. ■

**Like to help?** If you know any veterans who served in the Alaska Territorial Guard, please contact the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs at (907) 428-6016, and ask for Jerry Beale and the Veterans Affairs office. You'll find friendly, helpful people who will make your family and friends very proud of their service to both Alaska and our country.



Opening Day. Alaska Governor Frank H. Murkowski and Major General Craig E. Campbell, the Adjutant General, cut the ribbon at the new Alaska Veterans and Pioneer Home in Palmer, Alaska. The 4.4 million dollar project is the first of its kind in Alaska. Photo: Ken Fankhauser, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs

# Joint Forces



## NATION'S FIRST MILITARY UNIT DESIGNED TO PROTECT AMERICA AGAINST BALLISTIC MISSILE ATTACK CHANGES COMMAND

By Christine Nangle, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs



**Legacy of Leadership.** A strong, steady breeze caused flags to fill at full attention as the Change of Command began. (From left to right) Lieutenant Colonel Edward Hildreth, Colonel Michael Yowell and Lieutenant Colonel Gregory Bowen prepared to transfer leadership, responsibility and authority of the 49th Missile Defense Battalion from one leader to another.

**Goodbye and Hello.** Soldiers stood at parade rest as the command of the 49th Missile Defense Battalion changed hands at Fort Greely on May 8, 2006. This is the unit's first ceremony since it began by presidential directive on January 22, 2004.

Photos: Mark Farmer, Topcover.com





The first Change of Command in the history of the 49th Missile Defense Battalion since it formed in 2003, happened on May 8, 2006. The Command and Colors of the 49th Missile Defense Battalion, at Fort Greely, were passed from Lieutenant Colonel Gregory Bowen to Lieutenant Colonel Ted Hildreth.

Hildreth was chosen for the position from a pool of excellent candidates. "It is really a privilege [to be the commander]," Hildreth said. "For an officer, it really is the ultimate privilege they could bestow on you to command a unit, command a battalion. It is really an honor for me to be here and work with a great group of Americans at Fort Greely."

Hildreth will follow in the footsteps of a trailblazing, outgoing commander.

Bowen, the first commander of the 49th Missile Defense Battalion, provided superb leadership and was instrumental in the development of the nation's first military unit designed to protect the United States against ballistic missile attacks. Bowen was awarded the Legion of Merit for his exceptional service as commander of the 49th Missile Defense Battalion.

"When Colonel Bowen got here, this post was closed. Houses were boarded up, there was snow on the ground everywhere, the school was closed, the pool had been drained of water. It looked like a ghost town," said Major General Craig E. Campbell, the Adjutant General of the Alaska National Guard. "Greg Bowen

has done an excellent job in the time he has been here. He brought every single Soldier you have here today – he hired them, trained them and got them operational."

Campbell and Lieutenant General Larry Dodgen, the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, attended the ceremony.

The prestigious military leaders showed support for Soldiers from both the Alaska National Guard and U.S. Army Alaska. The troops work together continuously to implement the presidential program that protects the United States from ballistic missile attack.

"The Guard here in Alaska has done a marvelous job of standing up this unit, committing it to the mission, and keeping faith with that mission," Dodgen said. "I believe they are ensuring homeland security issues that we need the National Guard to do and this is one that they have embraced and done very, very well."

The Change of Command Ceremony is a traditional event, rich with symbolism and heritage. The U.S. Army adopted the custom of Passing the Colors when General George Washington assumed command of the Continental Army in Boston on July 3, 1775. After the Passing of the Colors, the battalion recognizes its new leader. ■



**We Love to Learn.** The Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Wing hosted NASA for one of the most complex field studies ever conducted in atmospheric chemistry, and students from Anchorage Christian Schools were part of the fun. "It's actually really cool; once you talk with the pilots and scientists you find out what they are doing and how they got involved," said Alex Harder, a junior at Anchorage Christian Schools. More than 35 students got the once in a lifetime opportunity to meet NASA scientists and see the exciting DC-8 aircraft, a "flying space lab." More than 100 people from NASA were at Kulis conducting a field experiment that examined how air pollution from Asia influences the United States. "The people at Kulis were fantastic. It is important to recognize what the Alaska Air Guard has done to make this mission work," said Michael Gaunce, NASA Earth Science Manager. Photo: Ken Fankhauser, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs

# Homeland Security & Emergency Management



## ICE JAMS

### bring SPRING FLOODING to Alaskan Communities

By Jamie Littrell, DHS&EM

Warm springtime temperatures, numerous ice jams and lots of snow melt made for a very wet breakup for communities along the Kuskokwim and Yukon rivers this year. The Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM) and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Alaska Pacific River Forecast Center (APRFC) started receiving reports of flooding along the Steese Highway in early May. Widespread flooding of several communities was reported throughout the month with the most serious flooding occurring in Hughes, Koyukuk, Kwethluk, Alakanuk and Emmonak.

Large portions of the communities and their infrastructures were impacted by the flooding, with several roads becoming inundated and eventually eroded by the floodwaters. The situation deteriorated in Koyukuk, and nearly three dozen "at-risk" residents were evacuated to Galena for a short time. Additional flooding damage was reported in the communities of Bethel, Nulato and Kongiginak.

DHS&EM and the APRFC worked as a team to prepare Alaska's riverine communities for such events. In early April, DHS&EM mailed the *2006 Spring Flood Breakup Guide* to 76 communities, tribal councils and boroughs prone to annual flooding.

"*The 2006 Spring Breakup Guide* outlines procedures communities can take to prepare for possible ice-jam flooding," said DHS&EM's Deputy Director for Emergency Management Jim Butchart. "Some of the information contained in the guide includes how to put together a community flood plan, emergency contact lists and information on what to do if flooding occurs."

In addition to the *2006 Spring Breakup Guide*, DHS&EM and the APRFC team up every year for a program called "River Watch." Each spring, for more than 20 years, DHS&EM and the APRFC partner to identify flooding dangers during breakup and

**Ice Damage.** Flood waters were not the only problem communities had to deal with. The floating ice chunks coming ashore with the flood waters wrecked havoc as well.

Photo: Kerry Seifert, DHS&EM





Propane Tanks Problems. Flood waters affected infrastructure components in communities, such as the propane tank farm in Koyukuk. Photo: Kerry Seifert, DHS&EM



River Worries. (Above) An aerial view of river ice breaking up on the Yukon River in early May showed how extensive the ice problem could be. Photo: George Coyle, DHS&EM

provide warnings to residents of potentially affected villages.

“Our team effort over the past two decades has been essential to identifying potential flood threats in Alaska and disseminating the warnings to our customers, the residents of Alaska,” said Larry Rundquist, Development and Operations hydrologist for NOAA’s APRFC.

Joint DHS&EM and APRFC field teams fly over the major rivers to observe ice conditions and visit local villages along those rivers to warn of potential ice-jam-flooding threats. The primary areas flown are along the Yukon River and the middle and lower Kuskokwim River, as these areas have the greatest likelihood for ice-jam flooding. To supplement the reconnaissance team reports, general aviation pilots are asked to report ice conditions

they observe. The APRFC analyzes the collected information and disseminates flood warnings and watches to affected communities. In the event of a flood, DHS&EM personnel will provide immediate on-site emergency coordination.

DHS&EM officials conducted on-site visits in early June to the western Alaskan communities who sustained damages from floods. They led a multi-agency team consisting of representatives from the Alaska departments of Environmental Conservation and Transportation & Public Facilities to the communities of Alakanuk, Bethel,

Emmonak and Kwethluk to work with local officials as they start the recovery process. While in Alakanuk, the team was joined by representatives from the Alaska Village Electric Co-op (AVEC) and a U.S. Coast Guard spill response unit.

“When we send a team into a community, they assist leaders any way they can as the community tries to get back on its feet,” Butchart said. “While out there, they also collect damage information for possible state disaster declarations that may provide (state) assistance to affected communities.”

For the 2006 spring floods, local disaster declarations were issued in Hughes, Koyukuk and Alakanuk. Bethel, Nulato and Kwethluk are still evaluating if they will file local declarations. ■

## *Alaska Army Guard Black Hawk Crew Battled Fort Richardson’s Otter Lake Blaze*

An Alaska Army National Guard Black Hawk helicopter was called into action in May to support firefighters battling a growing wildfire near Otter Lake on Fort Richardson. The request for assistance came just days after the crews completed wildfire training exercises.

“We were able to quickly recall an Alaska Army National Guard Black Hawk helicopter crew to Bryant Army Guard heliport,” said Major Mike Haller, spokesman for the Alaska National Guard. “As soon as they arrived back at Bryant, they jumped to the task and began attacking the fire using their water bucket.”

Haller noted the crew had already left for their homes at the end of their normal work day when the recall notification was received.

According to officials, the fire began in an approximate five-acre area near the Alaska Railroad tracks and quickly expanded to more than 50 acres. The Guard’s Black Hawk crew remained on station fighting the fire, along with Fort Richardson, Elmendorf and Fire Service Hot Shot crews well into the night.

The Alaska Army National Guard routinely practices wild-fire support every year. ■

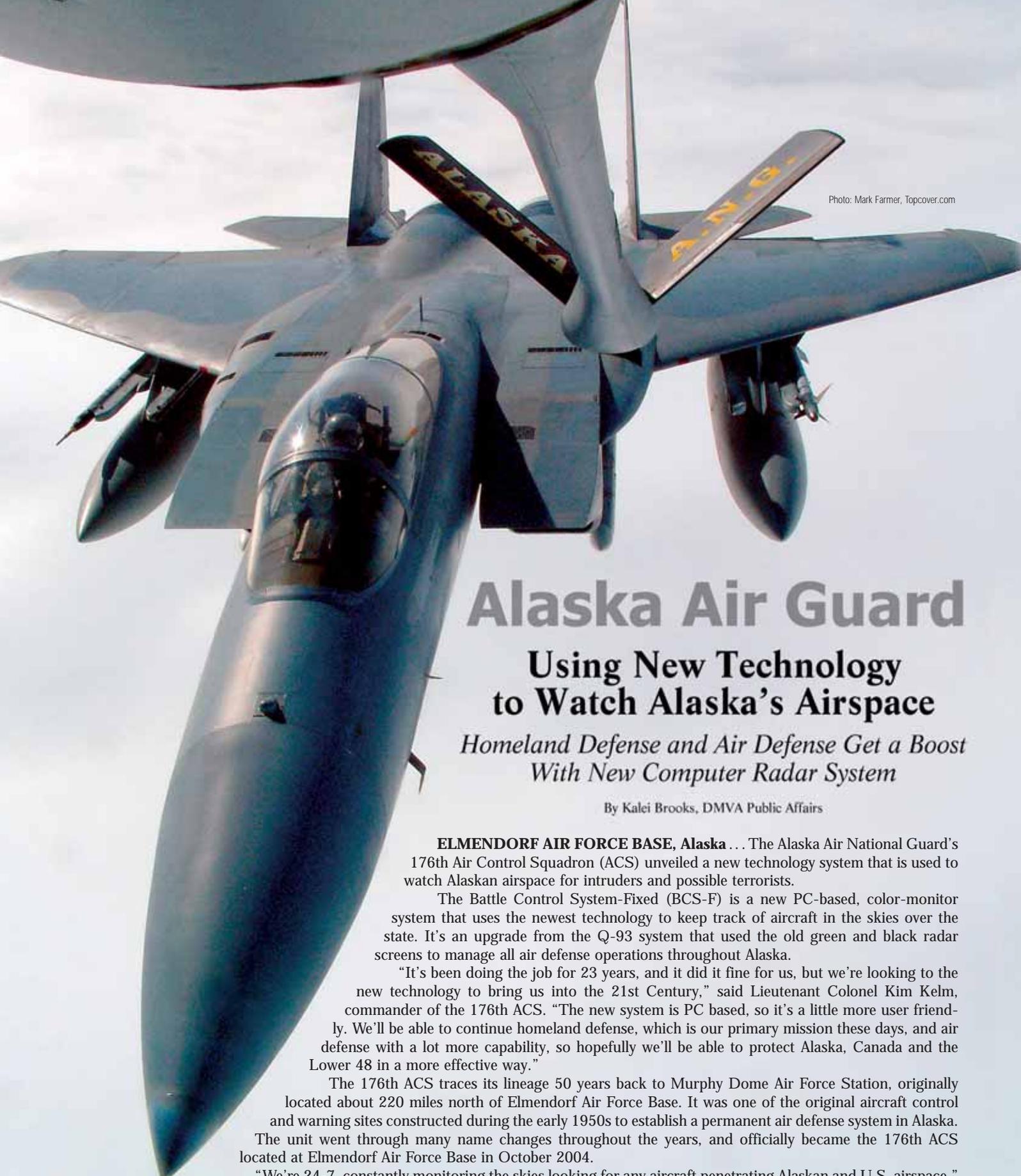


Photo: Mark Farmer, Topcover.com

# Alaska Air Guard

## Using New Technology to Watch Alaska's Airspace

*Homeland Defense and Air Defense Get a Boost  
With New Computer Radar System*

By Kalei Brooks, DMVA Public Affairs

**ELMENDORF AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska** . . . The Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Air Control Squadron (ACS) unveiled a new technology system that is used to watch Alaskan airspace for intruders and possible terrorists.

The Battle Control System-Fixed (BCS-F) is a new PC-based, color-monitor system that uses the newest technology to keep track of aircraft in the skies over the state. It's an upgrade from the Q-93 system that used the old green and black radar screens to manage all air defense operations throughout Alaska.

"It's been doing the job for 23 years, and it did it fine for us, but we're looking to the new technology to bring us into the 21st Century," said Lieutenant Colonel Kim Kelm, commander of the 176th ACS. "The new system is PC based, so it's a little more user friendly. We'll be able to continue homeland defense, which is our primary mission these days, and air defense with a lot more capability, so hopefully we'll be able to protect Alaska, Canada and the Lower 48 in a more effective way."

The 176th ACS traces its lineage 50 years back to Murphy Dome Air Force Station, originally located about 220 miles north of Elmendorf Air Force Base. It was one of the original aircraft control and warning sites constructed during the early 1950s to establish a permanent air defense system in Alaska. The unit went through many name changes throughout the years, and officially became the 176th ACS located at Elmendorf Air Force Base in October 2004.

"We're 24-7, constantly monitoring the skies looking for any aircraft penetrating Alaskan and U.S. airspace," said Staff Sergeant Keith Greenhalgh, weapons director of the 176th ACS. "Between surveillance, which are the people who watch the skies; identification, who identify aircraft; and weapons, who mobilize for intercepts, we work together to make sure all aircraft are identified timely and accurately."



**Powering Down.** The Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Air Control Squadron (ACS) shut down its old green-and-black-radar-screen Q-93 system that was used to manage air defense operations throughout Alaska. Replacing the old system is the new Battle Control System-Fixed. It's a PC-based, color-monitor system that uses the newest technology to keep track of aircraft in the skies over the state. Photo: Kalei Brooks, DMVA Public Affairs

The mission of the 176th ACS will continue to be homeland and air defense, but with the new BCS-F technology, the unit has made the move to a high-capability, modern system from a Cold War legacy weapons system.

"The big future missions are data-link," Kelm said. "We will be able to data-link with the fighters in the air and send them surveillance pictures without even having to talk to them." ■



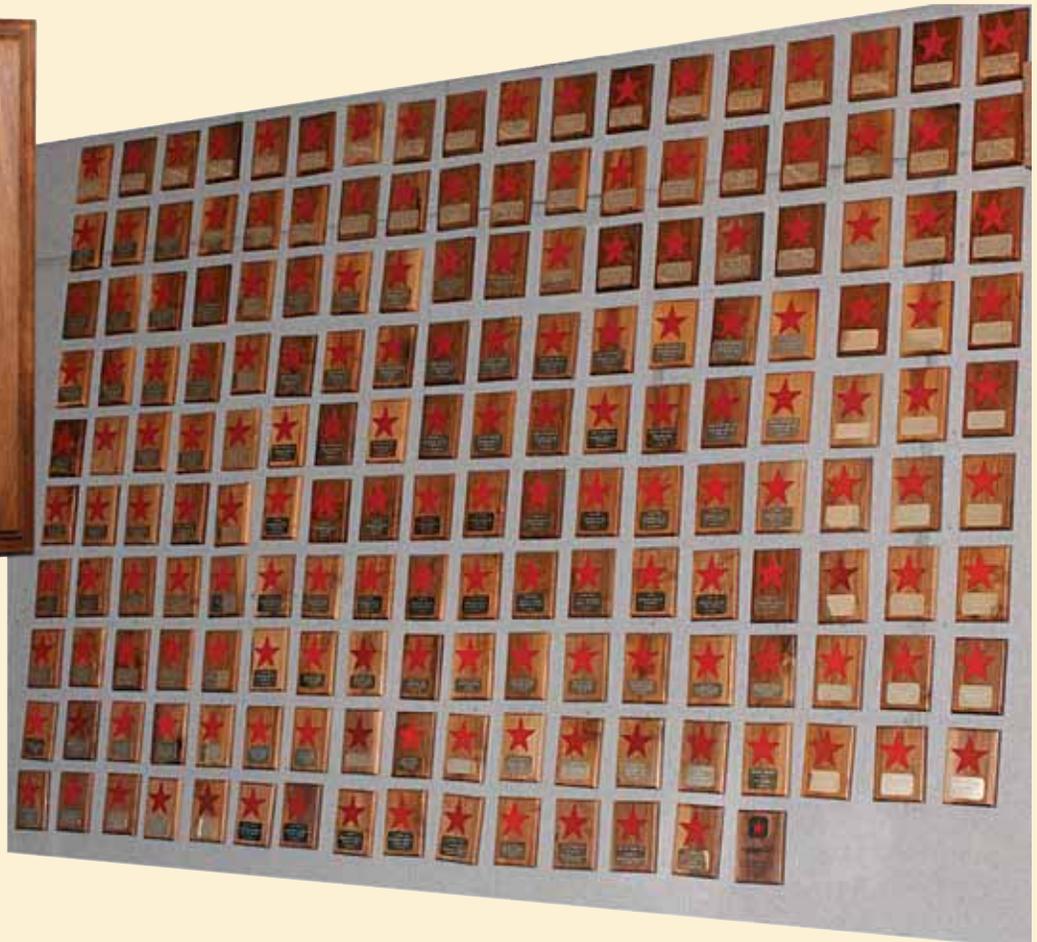
**Change of Command.** Colonel John Griffin will take command of the Alaska Air National Guard's 168th Air Refueling Wing from Colonel Arne Moe in August. Griffin most recently served as vice-commander of the Idaho Air National Guard's 124th Wing. "He is a command pilot with more than 4,100 hours of flight time in a range of combat aircraft," said Brigadier General Tim Scott, commander of the Alaska Air National Guard. "He is a veteran leader with a great depth of experience." The 168th Air Refueling Wing is home to more than 675 Airmen and eight KC-135R Stratotankers.

Photo: Courtesy of Air National Guard



**Red Star Wall.** Red star plaques are hung on the main floor of the Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Air Control Squadron (ACS) to keep track of each Russian aircraft that has been intercepted by U.S. forces. "Whenever the Russians would fly into our air space, we would launch fighters and intercept them," said Lieutenant Colonel Kim Kelm, commander of the 176th ACS. "Back in the Cold War era, Russia was a perceived threat, and so we always wanted to meet them with visibly armed fighters to let them know we were aware they were in our airspace and that we were going to protect our homeland. Now it's more of a camaraderie thing; they fly into our airspace, and we meet them with the same intent but it's more friendly."

Photo: Kalei Brooks, DMVA Public Affairs



# WALL OF HONOR

Photos: First Lieutenant Amy Bombassaro, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs



**Honoring the Fallen.** A member of the Alaska Highlanders bagpipe group reflects on the names added to the Alaska National Guard's Wall of Honor. Plaques honoring First Lieutenant Jaime Campbell, Chief Warrant Officer Four Chester Troxel, Specialist Michael Edwards and Specialist Jacob Melson, all of the Alaska Army National Guard's B Company, 1st Battalion, 207th Aviation, along with Major Bryan Adrian, of the Alaska Air National Guard's 212th Rescue Squadron, were added on Memorial Day, May 29, to the Wall of Honor, which pays tribute to Alaska National Guard members who died in the line of duty.

**We Will Never Forget.** Brigadier General Craig N. Christensen, Commander of the Alaska Army National Guard, and Major General Craig E. Campbell, the Adjutant General of the Alaska National Guard, unveiled memorial plaques honoring Alaska National Guard members who died in the line of duty in 2006.



**Memorial Day Reflections.** Lieutenant Governor Loren Leman (left) and Department of Administration Commissioner Scott Nordstrand (right) were among nearly 200 leaders and community members who attended the unveiling ceremony of memorial plaques honoring Alaska National Guard members who died in the line of duty in 2006.



# Education



## GRADUATES Receive Long-Awaited Diplomas

*Alaska National Guard Members Finish College and Earn Degrees*

By Sergeant Eric Hamilton, Alaska National Guard Education Support Officer

Six Alaska National Guard members graduated from different colleges at the Ninth Annual Commencement Exercise at the Fort Richardson Community Education Complex, May 5, 2006.

The graduates recognized that day were Captain Michelle M. Worm, First Lieutenant Sharyl L. Worrell, Second Lieutenant Robin A. Eskelson, Master Sergeant Albert Alston Jr., Sergeant Diane M. Singh and Sergeant Robert R. Harris III.

"I'm just glad it's over," Worm said. She noted that her most recent college experience had been challenging and, at times, very frustrating, as she worked to complete her bachelor's degree in nursing from Excelsior College. "Everyone should be thinking about their education as soon as they get out of high school."

For Singh, her quest for a bachelor's degree in marketing started in September 1997 at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. But back then, she said the timing wasn't right.

"I wasn't ready for college, so I joined the military," Singh said. "I didn't start working on my degree again until 2002."

Singh said she wasn't certain of what her educational goal would be at first and got an associate degree in general studies. "I just knew that I had to start somewhere."

"You have to sacrifice the things you like to do. When you get home, you have to hit the books instead of going to a movie or having a quiet dinner with your husband," Singh said. "You've got to discipline yourself, and your spouse has to put up with that. Mine had to do the chores I'd usually do."

Singh's new chore became balancing work and school.

"It's not instant gratification, that's for sure," said Singh, who has been

working as an AGR since March 2004. "You can lose sight of your goals, especially when you begin working full time. It's a challenge because you're not paid to go to school."

Singh also said she was fortunate to have the support of her supervisors First Lieutenant Robert Pillow III and Sergeant First Class Julie Heffele. "Your superiors really need to support you and work with you when the classes you need aren't offered after work hours," Singh said.

Heffele said one of the first things she counsels her Soldiers on is education and finds a way to cross-train her employees so everyone can work around changing school schedules. As a leader, Pillow said supporting education is the right thing to do despite the sacrifices involved.

"If we didn't support it, are we telling Soldiers that education is not important?" Pillow pondered. "I would provide this opportunity for any one of my Soldiers."

Unlike mandated activities like physical fitness training, voluntary education is more driven by the motivation and goals of the individual, Pillow said. "Education is something we all need for self-improvement," he said. "Singh's education has allowed her to better help other Soldiers in the Guard, assume extra responsibility, develop her time management skills and self-discipline," all of which are excellent military traits. "I hope more Soldiers will see her example and follow it."

One wife said her husband's graduation set a motivating example.

"I was scared to take college classes," said Sergeant Shana Harris. She explained that because she had never been to college before, she only wanted to take classes if her husband, Robert, also attended the same speech class.

After overcoming her fear, she excelled and completed her class with

an 'A.' "I think I ended up with a better grade than he did," she said laughing. It's now her goal to finish her education with a bachelor's degree in healthcare administration.

Robert credits Shana's support as the reason he earned his associate degree from Central Texas College this year.

"You need to be persistent in pursuing your goals," Harris advised. "If you want to get it done, get it done. Don't let excuses stop you." ■

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# Air Guard Member Appreciates Employer

By Kalei Brooks, DMVA Public Affairs

**CAMP DENALI, Alaska** . . . During this poignant time for the military, one Anchorage employer is going above and beyond in her support to the Alaska National Guard and her Guardmember employee.

Emily Johnston, manager of Family Health Resources at the Alaska Native Medical Center, was presented with a patriotic employer award by the National Committee for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR). She was recognized for “contributing to national security and protecting liberty and freedom by supporting employee participation in America’s National Guard and Reserve force.”

Johnston is the supervisor of Senior Airman Robert Henry, who is a member of the Alaska Air National Guard’s 206th Combat Communications Squadron. She not only supported Henry, 23, when he enlisted in the National Guard about four months after he began working at Family Health Resources in June 2003, but she was also there to provide him guidance and encouragement.

“When I made the move to go to the National Guard, everyone supported me,” said Henry, who is originally from Kotzebue. “They were excited and proud of me for taking the step and becoming responsible by furthering my education, and training and doing something with my life.”

Henry left for basic training in January 2004, and returned to his job at Family Health Resources at the end of October 2004. But his long absence didn’t deter the backing he received from Johnston.

“I wanted to recognize my employer for her hard work, dedication, motivation and for giving me 150 percent when others were giving me 100 [percent],” Henry said. “I wanted to recognize her for basically being my mom.”

“It’s a high tempo time when Guardmembers and Reservists are pulled



**Appreciative Airman.** Senior Airman Robert Henry thanks his supervisor, Emily Johnston, for her support of his service in the Alaska Air National Guard during a presentation at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage March 30. The National Committee for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve honored Johnston with the “My Boss is a Patriot” award. Photo: Lieutenant Amy Bombassaro, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs

away from their civilian employers,” said Senior Master Sergeant Kevin Parks, the state awards chairman for the ESGR Committee. “We’re saying thank you; we’re honored here today to present this award to Emily.”

Johnston has worked for Family Health Resources for 23 years and said Henry is her first employee who is a Guardmember or Reservist. So receiving this level of recognition was a surprise and an honor.

“I told him if it [enlisting in the Guard] is something he wanted to do, we support him and encourage him,” Johnston said. “I’m speechless – thank you. I will be very proud to put this

award in my office.”

“We always recognize that a Guardmember has many spheres in his life, and we try to balance it as best we can,” said Major Jeff Campbell, commander of the 206th Combat Communications Squadron. “We greatly appreciate the support of civilian employers and this is a great way to recognize them.”

Campbell noted this is the first time a member of his unit has stepped up to nominate an employer for this award.

“The end result is a safer nation and a well-rounded individual,” Campbell said. “We hope you’re gaining from what we’re teaching him on the weekends.” ■

***Alaska Native Medical Center department manager given “My Boss is a Patriot” award***



Employer Honored. Family Health Resources Manager Emily Johnston holds the “My Boss is a Patriot” award presented to her by Major Jeff Campbell, left, and Senior Airman Robert Henry, right, at the Alaska Native Medical Center in Anchorage. Henry nominated Johnston for the award because of her support for his service in the Alaska Air National Guard. Campbell serves as Henry’s commander of the 206th Combat Communications Squadron. Alaskan employers share a deep-rooted support for members of the Guard and the Reserves. Photo: Lieutenant Amy Bombassaro, JFHO-AK Public Affairs

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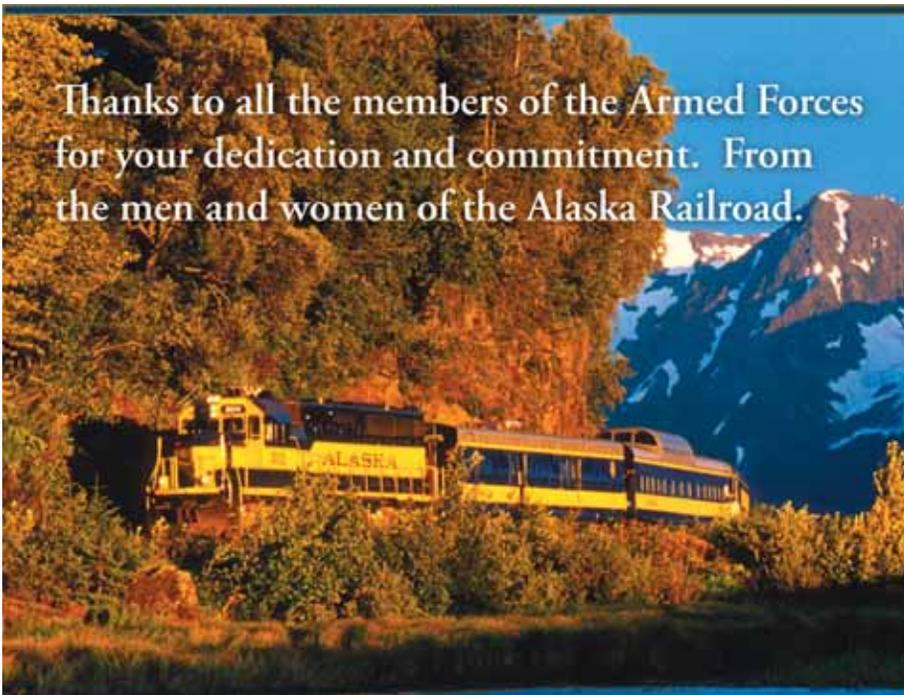
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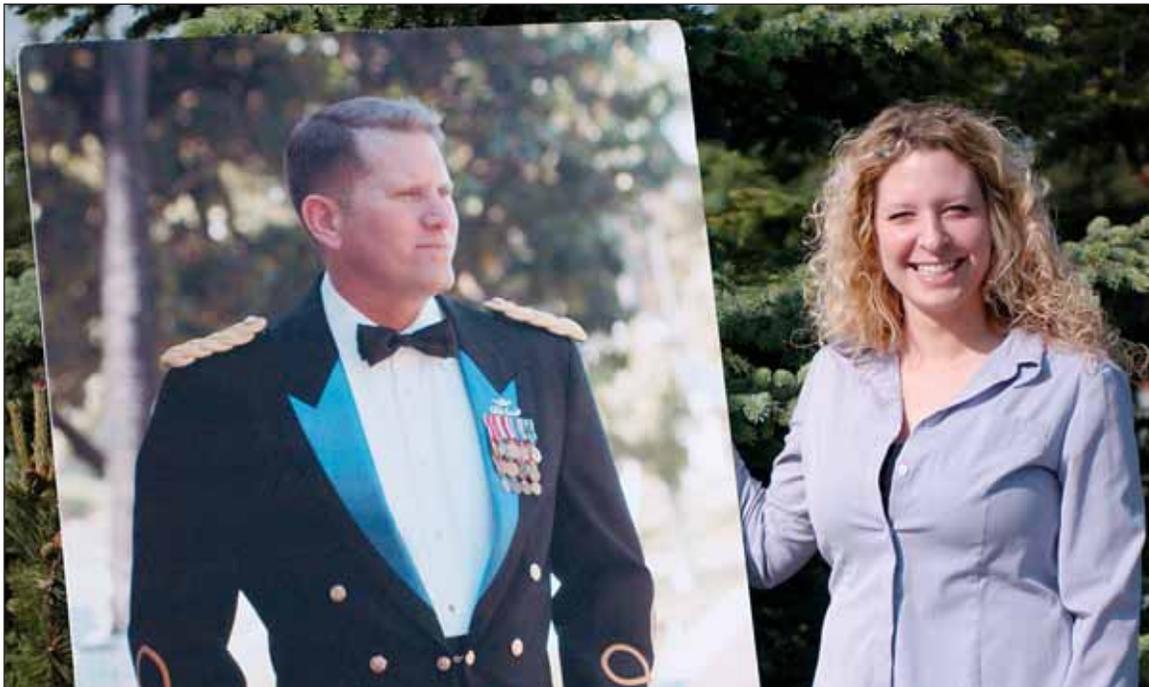




# Family Support

## STAYING CONNECTED

By Christine Nangle, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs



**A Picture Says A Thousand Words.** Angela Williams with the Alaska National Guard Family Programs made a "Flat Daddy" of her husband, Colonel Stephen Williams, commander of the 207th Infantry Brigade. A "Flat Daddy" is a cardboard, life-size model that families have made of their deployed Soldiers. The "Flat Daddy" is able to attend children's birthday parties, holidays and other special family events, helping families to remember Daddy is with them in spirit. Families also send pictures of the "Flat Daddy" to deployed Soldiers to remind them that they are not forgotten back home.

Photo: Ken Fankhauser, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs

**CAMP DENALI, Alaska...** With so many Alaska National Guard Soldiers deploying this summer, Family Programs is working hard.

Angela Williams, who is with the Alaska National Guard Family Programs, knows first hand what it feels like to have a loved one deployed. Her husband, Colonel Stephen Williams, commander of the 207th Infantry Brigade, deployed just three months after they were married.

Williams reflected on her feelings when her husband deployed, "I miss my best friend. I miss someone to go fishing with during the summer. I miss spending time with him. I just miss him."

Williams is not alone. Experts say when Soldiers deploy their entire family is affected as much as the individual going to the combat zone.

"The largest burden is on the spouses of deployed Soldiers with children because they suddenly become a single parent. They are stuck doing all the family chores," said Family Programs Director Jan Myers. "The Soldiers who are deployed are in a fast-paced environment and focused on a mission; whereas, their spouses are left to constantly worry about their safety."

Staff members from Family Programs regularly call families of deployed Soldiers to get updates and see if they can assist the families. They also send out a monthly e-mail or newsletter to keep families updated on the Soldiers' activities in the Middle East.

"It helps them to know what their Soldiers are doing while they're overseas," Williams said. "It is a good way to stay informed and stay connected."

Family members of deployed Soldiers are encouraged to spend time with other families as a means of therapy and to create support networks.

"They [family members] find comfort amongst themselves," Myers said. "It is always easier to talk to someone who has been there, done that. That's why we encourage the connection."

There are some creative ways for loved ones to remember their deployed Soldiers. For example, one deployed Soldier's spouse puts one Hershey's Kiss in a bowl for every day her husband is away from home. Other spouses will get a picture of their deployed Soldiers and have it screen-printed onto their pillowcases, so they feel connected before drifting off to sleep.

When Chief Warrant Officer Three Mel Rush, with the Alaska Army National Guard's Echo Company, 207th Aviation, was deployed, he would record himself reading books such as *Curious George* for his 4-year-old son to listen to at bedtime.

Technology has improved substantially over the years and helps families feel more connected when Soldiers are deployed.

Webcams are a valuable tool when families are separated; they provide families a way to actually see one another even though they are thousands of miles apart.

"Webcams are super helpful because you can see your deployed Soldier's facial expression – and that means a lot to see when you tell a joke or say I love you," Williams said.

While family programs, modern devices and support networks may help, there is no doubt that nothing is as good as having the deployed Soldier home.

"I can't wait to see him again," Williams said. "So I can feel like myself and see the world through his eyes again." ■



# Who We Are...

## What does *"Patriotism"* mean to you?

**Sergeant Major  
Pete Jensen**

*AKARNG Recruiting and  
Retention*



"It's a feeling that you can only feel yourself. It's deep inside. I show it through the flags and photos that I have in my office."

**Deb French**

*National Guard  
Family Readiness Assistant*



"It means love of country – like when so many people helped with the Hurricane Katrina effort."

**Staff Sergeant  
Antonio Bates**

*AKARNG Unit Supply Sergeant*



"Patriotism means that you defend all that is precious to us and our country."

**Lauren Nicholas**

*DHS&EM  
Administration Clerk*



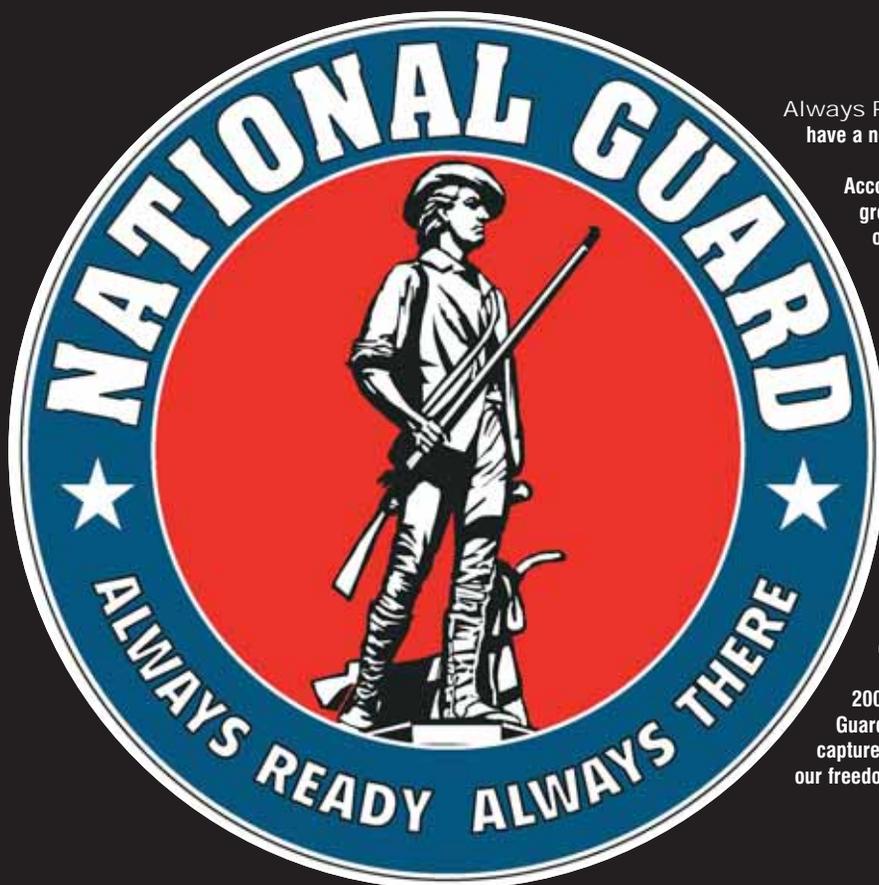
"It means always trying to better your country no matter what."

**Riley Casey**

*Distant Learning/Visual  
Information Program Manager*



"Someone who is willing to fight for what they believe or for their country."



Always Ready - Always There. The Army and Air National Guard have a new unified logo that serves both organizations.

According to Guard officials, "The new logo will be used on aircraft, ground vehicles and nearly anywhere else appropriate to show off the 'Guard colors' during both our routine and operational activities."

The simplicity of this new logo embodies the National Guard's time-honored traditions with the Minuteman, the colors of Old Glory and message that today's Minutemen still live by.

Guard leaders expect the logo to increasingly be seen on the sides of Guard aircraft and vehicles. The new branding of the Guard is in line with business and industry – in this case drawing upon the traditional values of America's hometown Army and Air Force.

The Alaska National Guard's history, though youthful compared to other States, is rich with numerous well-defined examples of courage, honor and selfless service.

2006 marks the 370th Anniversary of the beginning of the National Guard – the oldest of America's uniformed services. The new logo captures the patriotism of those who've served and given so much for our freedom and liberty.



# Legacy

Passages from *Soldiers of the Mists*

We are continuing to share passages from Alaska National Guard Historian Emeritus Cliff Salisbury's book, "Soldiers of the Mist." Major General John Schaeffer, the Adjutant General from 1986 to 1991 said, "...it is important for present and future generations to understand the sacrifices our Minutemen and women have always made for Alaska." Our Legacy...

## THE GREAT WAR – PART IV

The Secretary of the Territorial Counsel of Defense in Seward, W.H. Whittlesey, sent a telegram message to the governor on January 17, 1918, requesting U.S. troops be sent to Seward. He was concerned about the number of aliens coming and going through Seward and those found lingering on the government dock, the bridges and the warehouses.

Strong replied by stating, "It is unadvisable at the present time to ask for regular troops at Seward as you have Home Guard which is organized under the Acts of Congress of June 14, 1917."

The combined emotions of fear and patriotism created during a wartime climate created some unusual situations, particularly on the Last Frontier. The best sample of this came (as described in a letter) from the mining town of McCarthy.

Hon. J.F.A. Strong  
Governor of Alaska  
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Sir:

*I am writing what follows because I think it's my duty to keep you informed of all local conditions which in anyway effect the defense of the Territory and its military establishment.*

*The population within a radius of 20 miles of McCarthy is about one thousand, of which 75% are foreign-born laborers. I do not think that over 25% of our population is native born and not over 50% are citizens in the United States.*

*Swedes and Finns predominate and constitute about 40% of the total. These are pro-German with but very few exceptions. In my opinion, 50% of the population of this vicinity is pro-German. This condition is deplorable but is more so on account of conditions existing in the little town of McCarthy, formerly known as Shushanna Junction.*

*In this town of not more than 250 in population are four big saloons and from 15 to 20 houses of ill-frame, all the latter engaged in the illegal sale of liquor. The saloons close at midnight and on Sundays and will go out of business January first but the other places have no closed seasons and I do not think will close on New Years.*

*I am a father and I have a son now in training (with the Army) at Camp Lewis, Washington. I have read with great satisfaction of the effective measures to clean up conditions around the camp. If this attitude is that of the government, and I believe it is, do you not think we should begin the good work here? I believe this cleanup is absolutely necessary before the draft takes place but the question is how should it be done. If you think it is advisable I will make an investigative trip as far as Valdez and while there lay these matters before the District Attorney.*

Respectfully yours,  
Peter S. Eriksen - Game Warden.

Another problem facing the Governor was the registration of young men for the draft. Inquiries came from draft boards in Pillar Bay, Treadwell, Thane, Hoonah, Excursion Inlet and Gambier Bay concerning proper forms and the problem of potential Soldiers leaving the Territory without signing up.

By September 1917, Governor Strong, who took his job seriously, was sending messages to the U.S. Marshall in Seattle to pick up Territory men who were leaving Alaska without registering for the draft.

The Home Guard now had the additional duty of keeping its eyes on potential draft dodgers. The Governor continued his correspondence with the U.S. Arsenal in Benicia, California, which was still somewhat reluctant to send more targets, slings, ammunition and

rifles north to Alaska.

Even the famed Dog Team Doctor, J.H. Romig, wrote to the Governor on behalf of his son Robert, who was patriotic and willing to serve in the Regular Army in any capacity. We thought perhaps the Quartermaster Department would be in line with his qualifications." Fathers have always been fathers.

The men who organized the Home Guard in 1917, along with Governor Strong, were going through the same basic process of forming a militia that Americans had been doing since the Massachusetts Bay Colony organized the first official militia in 1636.

The years had added complexity and paperwork but the end product – an organized militia – was similar in form. The amateurism, pettiness and politics were probably as prevalent in 1636 as 1917. However, the dedication and the patriotism associated with militia troops cut through three hundred years of history and the American fighting man came shining through the mists of time.

On November 11, 1918 word came from France that the War to end all Wars had itself come to an end at 11 a.m. The great war machine which had been created throughout the nation would be dismantled. In time, the memories of one of the worlds most devastating wars would soften as the distance between the reality of horror and the comfort of old age security (that thing we call history) became a fact of life for the participants who had survived.

As the years rolled by and the Alaskan Home Guardsmen of 1917-1918 marched off towards eternity, they unknowingly left a legacy of duty, patriotism and honor behind – sturdy foundations for the Minutemen who would come swarming out of the mists for a new call to duty in 1939. ■



Anchorage on Memorial Day 1917. Although World War I was less than two months old, Alaskans rallied around the U.S. flag. The large building across the street is Robard's Hall where the Home Guard Militia drilled. Photo: Anchorage Museum

Next *Legacy* installment from *Soldiers of the Mists* series: *Between the Wars – Part I*.

*Soldiers of the Mists* was published by Pictorial Histories Publishing of Missoula, Montana, March 1992. It is available through fine bookstores throughout Alaska and online.

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# Awards • Decorations • Promotions

## Legion of Merit



LTC Marc Coulombe . . . . . 207th Bde  
CW5 Roger Stickney . . . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)

## Bronze Star



MSgt Alphonzo W. Allen . . . . . 168th SFS  
MSgt Charles E. Sears . . . . . 168th SFS  
TSgt Robert M. Dickerson Jr. . . . . 168th SFS

## Meritorious Service Medal



MSgt David A. Hayter . . . . . 168th SFS  
TSgt Clifford R. Phillips . . . . . 168th ARS  
Lt Col Christopher J. Pettine . . . . . 168th ARS  
Chief Jeffrey H. Mason . . . . . 168th MSF  
Chief Rachel E. Henrys . . . . . 168th MDG  
SMSgt Mary E. Grasso . . . . . 168th ARW  
MSgt Catherine A. Pointer . . . . . 168th MSF  
MSG Myong Cape . . . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)  
SGT John Carl . . . . . 2nd Bn  
SFC Chad Cochran . . . . . 49th Space  
LTC Douglas Gorgoni . . . . . 297th Spt Bn  
CSM David Massullo . . . . . 49th Space



**Putting Families First.** Katharine Kolwicz, the founder and driving force behind the first-ever Family Support Group at Clear Air Force Station, received a First Lady Volunteer Award from Nancy Murkowski for her efforts in transitioning Clear AFS to a family friendly base. Kolwicz was one of 12 award recipients who were all "nominated for their exceptional dedication and extraordinary personal commitment in unpaid volunteer service to the community or the state," Murkowski said. She has worked tirelessly to create a welcoming atmosphere for families and helped to transition the facility to an Air National Guard base where Guardmembers are able to bring their families.

Photo: Courtesy of the Office of Governor Frank H. Murkowski

MAJ Charles Nesloney . . . . . 49th Space  
SFC James Young . . . . . 207th RTI  
MSgt Sonny W. Dean . . . . . 176th ACS  
MSgt Robert O. Gunderson . . . . . 176th ACS  
MSgt Tod C. Hemmert . . . . . 176th ACS  
CMSgt Peter F. Meacham . . . . . 176th ACS  
SMSgt Clifton W. Snapp . . . . . 176th ACS  
MSgt Vern A. Cordell . . . . . 176th AMXS  
MSgt Ralph D. Neff . . . . . 176th APF  
Lt Col Edith M. Grunwald . . . . . 176th LRS  
SMSgt Stacy J. Catania . . . . . 176th MDG  
1Lt Darrell E. Evans . . . . . 176th MSF  
MSgt Lyn M. Garrett . . . . . 176th MSF  
MSgt Tamara A. Thunander . . . . . 176th MSF  
MSgt Freddie A. Diaz . . . . . 176th MXS  
MSgt Anthony C. Rollins . . . . . 176th SFS  
Maj Michael E. Cummings . . . . . 176th WG  
Maj John M. Darnall . . . . . 176th WG  
Lt Col Ty K. Lee . . . . . 176th WG  
MSgt John F. Paff Jr. . . . . 176th WG  
Lt Col Richard M. Hawkins . . . . . 210th RQS  
Maj Toy C. Owen . . . . . 211th RQS  
Maj Travis G. Penrod . . . . . 211th RQS  
Maj Mark B. Welborn . . . . . 211th RQS  
MSgt Debra French . . . . . JFHQ-AK (Air)  
Lt Col Mark Bour . . . . . JFHQ-AK (Air)

## Army Commendation Medal



TSgt Byron S. Braselton . . . . . 168th SFS  
CPL James Clough . . . . . 49th Space  
CPT Timothy Galloway . . . . . 49th Space  
SGT Earl Hensen . . . . . 3rd Bn  
SGT David Knotts . . . . . 49th Space  
SGT Kotelman Kotelman . . . . . 103rd CST  
SGT Michael Lundburg . . . . . 3rd Bn  
SFC Maureen Meehan . . . . . 49th Space  
SGT Seth Payeur . . . . . 49th Space  
SGM Barbara Zanders . . . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)

## Air Force Commendation Medal



TSgt Lynn R. Johnson . . . . . 168th CF  
TSgt Mark D. Young . . . . . 168th MSF  
TSgt Heather G. David-Damm . . . . . 168th MSF  
TSgt Kevin G. Anderson . . . . . 168th MXS  
TSgt Warren R. Wright . . . . . 168th MXS  
SSgt David Kiernan . . . . . 213th SWS  
MSgt Ronald J. Brooker . . . . . 144th AS  
SSgt James D. Campbell . . . . . 144th AS  
SrA Thomas C. Hough . . . . . 144th AS  
TSgt George H. Lockwood . . . . . 144th AS  
Maj Susan S. Magnell . . . . . 144th AS  
SSgt Brian C. Nosich . . . . . 144th AS  
MSgt Mara K. Stephen . . . . . 144th AS  
SSgt Jeremy L. Stephens . . . . . 144th AS  
TSgt Craig A. Teigen . . . . . 144th AS  
TSgt Glen R. Tillman . . . . . 144th AS

SSgt Kelly M. Ward . . . . . 144th AS  
MSgt Kenneth L. Weber . . . . . 144th AS  
SSgt Elizabeth A. Williams . . . . . 144th AS  
TSgt Chad J. Demro . . . . . 176th ACS  
SSgt David K. Fuller . . . . . 176th ACS  
MSgt Lisa R. Kantor . . . . . 176th ACS  
TSgt Heather L. Pineiro . . . . . 176th ACS  
TSgt Kimberly D. Wanbaugh . . . . . 176th ACS  
MSgt William M. Barnett . . . . . 176th AMXS  
SSgt Naomi-Jean M. Groom . . . . . 176th APF  
TSgt Lawrence F. Lacroix . . . . . 176th APF  
SrA Joshua C. Lester . . . . . 176th APF  
SrA Jessica L. Lingo . . . . . 176th APF  
TSgt Richard L. Mattice . . . . . 176th APF  
SSgt Dana A. Nichols . . . . . 176th APF  
SSgt Anna R. Poole . . . . . 176th APF  
SSgt Benjamin C. Russell . . . . . 176th APF  
MSgt Edward L. Williams . . . . . 176th APF  
SSgt Jennifer M. Withrow . . . . . 176th CF  
TSgt Richard D. Fitzwater . . . . . 176th MXS  
MSgt Mark W. Saddler . . . . . 176th MXS  
TSgt Denny B. Walette . . . . . 176th MXS  
MSgt Paul L. Nelson . . . . . 212th RQS  
SSgt Chris R. Robertson . . . . . 212th RQS  
TSgt Robert M. Schnell . . . . . 212th RQS  
MSgt David J. Thompson . . . . . 212th RQS  
Maj Robert Price . . . . . 176th OSF  
MSgt Bradley Garner . . . . . 176th MXS  
1Lt Robert Stratton . . . . . 144th AS  
Maj Russel Hedden . . . . . 144th AS  
SMSgt Fred Heiker . . . . . 144th AS  
MSgt Kenneth Weber . . . . . 144th AS

## Army Achievement Medal



SFC Eric Schlemme . . . . . 103rd CST

## Air Force Achievement Medal



MSgt Lawrence Lara . . . . . 168th LRS  
SrA Elizabeth M. Metzger . . . . . 168th MSG  
SrA Zachary R. Darnell . . . . . 168th CF  
MSgt Lawrence Lara . . . . . 168th LRS  
SrA Lief C. Walters . . . . . 144th AS  
SSgt Wayne R. Earnheart . . . . . 176th ACS  
SSgt Johnnie R. Johnson . . . . . 176th ACS  
Capt Kelly M. Murphy . . . . . 176th ACS  
SSgt Victoria L. Pennington . . . . . 176th ACS  
TSgt Ryan Campbell . . . . . 176th AMXS  
SSgt Sheila J. Jones . . . . . 176th AMXS  
TSgt Megan D. Fournier . . . . . 176th APF  
SrA Heidi M. Gould . . . . . 176th APF  
SSgt Eric W. Mcqueary . . . . . 176th APF  
TSgt Richard D. Fitzwater . . . . . 176th MXS  
SrA Katelyn E. Magnuson . . . . . 176th WG  
MSgt Paul J. Barendregt . . . . . 212th RQS  
TSgt Jennifer M. Buehner . . . . . 212th RQS  
TSgt Jonathan R. Davis . . . . . 212th RQS

SSgt David W. Johnson . . . . . 212th RQS  
 SSgt Chad D. Moore . . . . . 212th RQS  
 TSgt John M. Romspert . . . . . 212th RQS  
 SSgt Michael J. Sullivan . . . . . 212th RQS  
 TSgt Chris F. Tellsworth . . . . . 212th RQS  
 TSgt Benjamin S. Walker . . . . . 212th RQS

**Army Good Conduct Medal**



SSG Richard Beck . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SFC Yolanda Cooper . . . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)  
 SFC Julie Heffele . . . . . 207th Avn

**Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal**



CSM John Barlow . . . . . 207th RTI  
 SGT Paul Bavilla . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SPC Arthur Browley . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SSG Marvin Brown . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SPC Aren Callahan . . . . . 1st Bn  
 CPL Doralee Castillo . . . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)  
 SFC Nicholas Cayford . . . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)  
 SPC Garred Chaffin . . . . . 207th Avn  
 CSM Gordon Choate . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SFC Kenneth Denny . . . . . 117th MPAD  
 SGT Jason Donlon . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SPC David Doxey . . . . . 1st Bn  
 1SG Mark Dudek . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SPC Nicholas Dutton . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SSG Donnell Erickson . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SFC David Foli . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SFC Michael Grunst . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SFC Charles Hooper III . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SFC Travis Kulp . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SPC Christina Watson . . . . . Med Det

**Armed Forces Reserve Medal**



SSG Marvin Brown . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SFC Nicholas Cayford . . . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)  
 CSM Gordon Choate . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SFC Yolanda Cooper . . . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)  
 SFC Kenneth Denny . . . . . 117th MPAD  
 SGT Jason Donlon . . . . . 1st Bn  
 1SG Mark Dudek . . . . . 1st Bn

SSG Donnell Erickson . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SFC David Foli . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SFC Michael Grunst . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SFC Julie Heffele . . . . . 207th Avn  
 SFC Charles Hooper III . . . . . 1st Bn

**Alaska Legion of Merit**



Lt Col Jay Williams . . . . . 168th AMS  
 MSgt Harold Vannortwick . . . . . 176th MSG  
 CMSgt Jeffrey Mason . . . . . 168th MSF  
 Lt Col Ty Lee . . . . . 176th WG

**Alaska Distinguished Service**



MSgt Debra French . . . . . JFHQ-AK (Air)  
 Lt Col Richard Hawkins . . . . . 210th RQS

**Alaska Cold War Victory Ribbon**



Lt Col Jay Williams . . . . . 168th AMS

**Alaska Community Service Medal**



CMSgt Patricia Cordell . . . . . 176th6 CS  
 SMSgt Angela Mattila . . . . . 176th CS  
 SMSgt Dean Kalbfleisch . . . . . 176th CS  
 MSgt Barron McLain . . . . . 176th CS

**Basic Recruiter Badge**

SGT Jason Baker . . . . . 297th Spt Bn  
 SPC Ryan Bell . . . . . Med Det  
 SGT Jazmina Hernandez . . . . . 207th Bde  
 SGT Michael Ingham . . . . . 297th Spt Bn

**Master Parachutist Badge**

SFC John Tully . . . . . 1st Bn

**Alaska Air National Guard First Sergeant Ribbon**

MSgt Paul Bobby . . . . . 176th SFS  
 MSgt Travis Doyle . . . . . 176th AMXS

**RETIREMENTS**

Brig Gen James Robinson . . .JFHQ-AK (Air)  
 MSgt David A. Hayter . . . . . 168th SFS  
 TSgt Clifford R. Phillips . . . . . 168th ARS  
 SGT Barry Simpson . . . . . 297th Spt Bn  
 SSG Billy Anaver . . . . . 1st Bn  
 SSG Christopher Alexie . . . . . 2nd Bn  
 SGT Carl Nicolai . . . . . 2nd Bn  
 SSG David Obermeyer . . . . . 297th Spt Bn  
 MSGT Brian Bradby . . . . . 207th Bde  
 SGT John Carl . . . . . 2nd Bn  
 LTC Lyle Crinklaw . . . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)  
 SSGT Gregory Fite . . . . . 3rd Bn  
 SGT Earl Hansen . . . . . 3rd Bn  
 CW2 John Janes . . . . . 207th Avn  
 CW3 Randall Johnson . . .JFHQ-AK (Army)  
 SGT Michael Lundberg . . . . . 3rd Bn  
 SFC Mark Wiggins . . . . . 2nd Bn  
 SGT William Zamora . . . . . 207th Bde  
 SGT Leonard Grandbois . . . . . 207th Avn  
 MAJ Dawn Pate . . . . . 297th Spt Bn  
 CW5 Roger Stickney . . . .JFHQ-AK (Army)  
 SFC Arthur Hayes . . . . . 207th Avn  
 MSG James Wafer . . . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)  
 MSG Charles Bohling . . . .JFHQ-AK (Army)  
 SSG Fritz Brown . . . . . 2nd Bn  
 SSG James Chase . . . . . 2nd Bn  
 1SG Walter Lewis . . . . . 2nd Bn  
 CW4 Harry James . . . . . 207th Avn  
 MSG Albert Alston . . . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)  
 SFC James Hastings . . . . . R&R  
 Maj Mitchell Gates . . . . . 213th SWS  
 Maj Michael Wellman . . . . . 211th RQS  
 Lt Col Paul Holmquist . . . . . 176th OSF  
 Lt Col Ty Lee . . . . . 176th WG  
 Lt Col Richard Hawkins . . . . . 210th RQS  
 Christopher Pettine . . . . . 168th ARS  
 SMSgt Eleonore Lawson . . . . . 176th AMXS  
 CMSgt James Bolin . . . . . 176th AMXS  
 MSgt John Paff . . . . . 176th WG  
 MSgt Thomas Pirro . . . . . 176th OSF  
 MSgt Anthony Rollins . . . . . 176th SFS  
 MSgt Harold Van Nortwick . . . . . 176th MSG  
 MSgt Ralph Neff . . . . . 176th APF  
 TSgt Steven Gehring . . . . . 176th CF  
 TSgt Craig Teigen . . . . . 206th CBCS

**Sergeant Knotts – NCO of the Year**



Top Non-Commissioned Officer in Missile Defense. Sergeant David M. Knotts, Jr., a member of the Alaska Army National Guard's 49th Missile Battalion at Fort Greely, won the Non-Commissioned Officer of the Year award for Space and Missile Defense Command. Sergeant Knotts will represent the Alaska Army National Guard and the Space and Missile Defense Command in Army-wide competition. He was recently inducted into the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club. Photo: Courtesy 49th Missile Battalion

# PROMOTIONS

## Colonel

Robert Doehl .....JFHQ-AK (Air)  
David Lowell .....JFHQ-AK (Air)  
Wendy Wenke .....JFHQ-AK (Air)

## Lieutenant Colonel

Brent Demoss .....144th AS  
Kevin Kenaston .....168th MOF

## Major

John Owens .....144th AS  
James VanHoomissen .....144th AS  
Steven Bucholz .....213th SWS  
Christopher Borger .....176th LRS  
Adriene Dallas .....176th WG  
Andrew Swartz .....176th MDG  
Jason Rose .....176th OSF

## Captain

Lee Wilkerson .....168th ARS  
Franklin Bithos .....207th Avn  
Daniel Crawford .....49th Space  
Sharyl Worrell .....144th AS  
Darrell Evans .....176th MSF  
Winslow Truax .....144th AS  
Melissa Jackson .....168th ARW

## First Lieutenant

Amy Bombassaro .....117th MPAD  
Nanette Martinez .....176th WG  
Patrick Lang .....176th STU FLT  
Lee Wilkerson .....168th ARS  
Wayne Oman .....176th ACS  
John Smith .....176th STF  
Brittany Nidiffer .....168th AMXS  
Andre Morgan .....176th MDG

## Second Lieutenant

James Campbell .....176th STU FLT  
Stephen Ludwig .....176th STU FLT

## Chief Warrant Officer Three

Peter Smith .....207th Avn

## Chief Master Sergeant

Carl Brooks .....ARLINGTON, VA  
Lori Gates .....JFHQ-AK (Air)  
Vickie Applegate .....168th ARW

## Master Sergeant/First Sergeant (E-8)

Dewey Green .....1st Bn

## Senior Master Sergeant

Joyce Davis .....JFHQ-AK (Air)  
Douglas Echernacht .....144th AS  
Brian Hartley .....176th MSF  
Joslyn Childs .....176th LRS  
Jeffrey Ullom .....176th OG/OGV  
Steven Slagle .....212th RQS  
Eric Schisler .....211th RQS  
David Thompson .....212th RQS  
William Hall .....176th MDG  
Paul Barendregt .....212th RQS

Chester Deptula .....176th MS  
David Smith .....176th MXS

## Sergeant First Class

William Brown .....1st Bn  
John Tully .....1st Bn  
Seth Gordon .....207th Avn  
Erik Vasquez .....JFHQ-AK (Army)

## Master Sergeant (E-7)

Leona C. Conner .....168th AMXS  
Dawn M. Vargo .....168th MXG  
Mark D. Slingerland .....168th MXG  
Anthony M. Key .....168th MXS  
Ronald W. Lovell .....168th MSF  
Gary L. Brock .....13th SWS  
David W. Pointer .....168th AMXS  
Lynn R. Johnson .....168th CF  
Roy Duckworth .....176th MXS  
Roland Lemieux .....176th MXS  
Robert Dickerson .....168th SFS  
Jennifer Nelson .....168th AMXS  
Jimmy King .....168th ARS  
Peter Alexakis .....176th AMXS  
William Humenik III .....176th ACS  
Richard Snyder .....176th OSF  
Steven Paine .....176th SFS  
Charles Pasco II .....176th SFS  
Gregory Pippin .....168th OSF  
Paul Jenkins .....176th LRS  
Henry Gatpandan .....176th SFS  
Benjamin Walker .....212th RQS  
Julia Barklow .....176th CF  
Kevin Comp .....176th AMXS  
Mark Karstetter .....176th MXS  
Vanessa Nunnery .....176th CF  
Denise Plaizier .....176th MSF  
Rebecca Webster .....206th CCS  
Timothy Cottingham .....103rd CST  
Donna Keib .....176th APF  
Shannon Hanks .....168th OG  
Robert Stavang .....168th MXS  
Williams Dixon .....168th AMXS  
Tracy Stephens .....168th MSG

## Staff Sergeant (E-6)

Phillip Chang .....117th MPAD  
George Koval .....207th Avn  
Aren Callahan .....1st Bn  
Joshua Hull .....1st Bn  
Pete Kapotak .....1st Bn  
Wayne Kapotak .....1st Bn  
Fernando Sangco .....49th Space

## Technical Sergeant

Patrick L. Scott .....168th MXS  
Phillip V. Kaup .....168th MXS  
Steven C. Roberts .....13th SWS  
Mark A. Casadei .....JFHQ-AK Det 1 (Air)  
Monte R. Rosenquist .....168th MXS  
Diminian P. Chagnon .....168th CF  
Cindy Cain .....176th ACS  
Mark Turton .....176th SFS

James Pennington .....176th SFS  
Steven Dawson .....176th MXS  
James Asselin .....176th MXS  
Phillip Larson .....176th AMXS  
James Buehner .....210th RQS  
Brian Roberts .....210th RQS, DET 1  
Kaprice Zuke .....176th WG  
Chadwick Jennings .....176th CES  
David Lewis .....176th AMXS  
Teletha Link .....176th MDG  
Susan Rowland .....176th ACS  
Chad Moore .....212th RQS  
Richard Rhea .....176th SFS  
Carl Clay .....176th MXS  
Todd Bowey .....176th CES  
Challaine Moore .....206th CBCS  
Keith Greenhalgh .....176th CES  
Lundy Twiford .....176th ACS  
Anna Boffo .....176th ACS

## Sergeant

Daniel Clark .....3rd Bn  
Aren Callahan .....1st Bn  
John Chriswell .....117th MPAD  
Anthony Craidon .....49th Space  
Jeremy Curtis .....49th Space  
Holt Duffin .....103rd CST  
Erwin Durano .....297th Spt Bn  
Sherman Ellington .....49th Space  
Douglas Fry .....49th Space  
Derrick Holmes .....49th Space  
Agata Krozal .....207th Bde  
Joey Lewis .....3rd Bn  
Tina Lua .....Med Det  
Michael Manson .....49th Space  
Erik Nebelsickvogt .....1st Bn  
Jacob Ostergard .....49th Space  
Jeanette Padgett .....49th Space  
Luke Sinclair .....49th Space  
Shemekian Wade .....207th Bde  
Curtis Watson .....207th Avn

## Staff Sergeant

Christopher Gyden .....168th CF  
Stacie Lancaster-Kitts .....168th MDG  
Debora Brekke-McGee .....168th MDG  
James Gengler .....168th MXS  
Justin Christiansen .....168th ARW  
Geneva Hoskins .....176th SVF  
Stephen Ludwig .....176th STU  
Matthew Moore .....176th MXS  
Maggie Chapman .....176th MOF  
Russell Dziedzic .....176th MXS  
James Peary .....176th MXS  
Shelana Richards .....176th MXS  
Leah Meyers .....176th LRS  
Robert Dubinsky .....176th MXS  
Howard Venable .....176th CES  
David Kotter .....176th MXS  
Jason Ott .....176th APF  
Douglas Weber .....206th CBCS  
Evan Davila .....176th MSF

# LATE BREAKING NEWS

## Alaska Air National Guard Adds New Mission *Governor and Adjutant General Celebrate New Opportunity With the Air Force*



C-17 Over Bering Sea.  
Photo: Mark Farmer, Topcover.com

**CAMP DENALI, Alaska**... Governor Frank H. Murkowski and Major General Craig E. Campbell, the Adjutant General of the Alaska National Guard, celebrate a new partnership between the Alaska Air National Guard and the Air Force.

As part of the Air Force Total Force Integration initiatives, Alaska's Air National Guard is teaming with the 3rd Wing at Elmendorf Air Force Base to form an Associate unit. This new unit is slated to fly the nation's premier cargo aircraft, the C-17 Globemaster III.

"The Base Relocation and Closure (BRAC) decision to close Kulis Air National Guard Base undoubtedly led to this decision," Murkowski said. "Now that the Air Guard will be located on Elmendorf, this partnership is a perfect fit and a huge win for Alaska."

Experienced Airmen of the Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Wing will train and fly with the Air Force's 3rd Wing, allowing maximum usage of the highly capable airlift platforms. Teaming Guardmembers and active duty Airmen allows Alaska forces to perform a key federal mission providing long-range precision airlift as well as supporting Alaska.

"I'm pleased to see the national recognition of the talent demonstrated by the Alaska Air National Guard," said Campbell. "The mission of the C-17 will allow increased

opportunities for Guardmembers and Alaska, expanding our airlift capacity and our operational capability."

As an Associate unit, the Air Force will maintain primary responsibility for the planes, while crews from both the Air National Guard and active duty will fly and maintain the aircraft.

Lieutenant General H. Steven Blum, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, is encouraged by these initiatives and continues to work to ensure the Alaska National Guard remains an important partner in America's defense.

"This move is one of the many showing the Air Force is committed to involving the Air National Guard in all missions," Blum said.

The C-17 Globemaster III is the newest, most flexible cargo aircraft to enter the airlift force. Its versatility allows rapid strategic delivery of troops and all types of cargo to main operating bases or directly to forward bases in the deployment area. The aircraft can perform tactical airlift and airdrop missions and can also transport litters and ambulatory patients during aeromedical evacuations.

The Air Force, Alaska Air National Guard, and the National Guard Bureau are coordinating a transition and training schedule to ensure effective operations. ■



# Start of the Trail

Welcome our newest members & employees

## 176th Wing

Chad Jones  
Mason Jones  
Christopher Luther  
Roger Sparks  
Steven Kean  
Gary Janes  
James Seigneur  
Jess Franco  
Larry Erickson  
Rebecca Baxter  
Theodore Champine  
Todd Selby  
Sarah McReynolds  
Greyson Watkins  
Michael Flynn  
Timothy Stone  
Jesus Rodriguez  
Jamie Syvertson  
Bridgett Mayeux  
Michael Kowaleski  
Logan Newby  
Benjamin Butcher  
Tanya Pocaigue  
Greg Williams  
Donald Lacy  
Wendell J. Greene  
Ellie Dash  
Anthony Conger  
James Rash  
Andrew McCrea

## 168th Air Refueling Wing

Dean Thibodeau  
Martin Kahn  
Steven Hannah  
Brittinae Tolliver  
Josh Kelly  
Amber Burley  
Jeanie Cruz  
Isaac Block  
Michael Greenley  
Amanda Crowsen  
James Hannis  
Becky Irish  
Ricky Ramos  
Christopher Bedwell  
Brandon Rider  
Carl Collins  
Joel James  
Stephen Akins  
Naomi Butler  
Vincent McKiernan  
Jamie Kurzenburger  
Donald Skinner

**Army Guard  
Medical Detachment**  
May Ann Felarca

Charles Howard  
Joshua Myhre

## 207th Aviation

William Elliott  
William Dunham  
Joseph Kroon  
Ian Beers  
Lawrence Kline  
James Ford  
Jeremy Harpe  
Nathan Rumble  
Justin Ables  
David Dimatteo  
Nicholas Hann  
Erik Gunderson  
Sheri Wood  
Sean Davis  
James Kempner  
Joshua Weckner  
Shamar Joseph  
Jay Daw  
Skeeter Atoruk  
Mary Standifer  
Chaz Izatt

## 297th Infantry

Neal Zucati  
Young Nguyen  
Andrew Clark  
Lucas Graham  
Aaron Broussard  
Garrett Mullen  
Thomas Noden  
Phillip Snyder  
Joel Heath  
Richard Stermer  
Bruce George  
Arthur Demoski  
Douglas Maller  
Caleb Frawley  
Richard Nemanic  
Christopher Stacy

## 297th Support Battalion

Andria Greer  
Annie Ordoyne  
Jonathon Rodriguez  
Gerald Nelson  
John Urekar  
Amanda Brush  
Aaron Reese  
Lina Chausse

## 207th Infantry

James Breton  
Anthony Nicolls  
Daryl Palembas

Michael Luper  
Morris Lemen III  
Jonathan Gilbert  
Steven Belanger  
Nicolas Nuuvai  
Jeremy Pierce  
Nicholas Howell  
Travis Perry  
Jan Meyers  
David Devito  
Matthew Guerin  
Pierre Duboc  
Michelle Jennings  
Clinton Brown III  
Jeanette Derry

## JFHQ-AK (Army)

Craig Dillon  
Jordan Bishop  
Matthew Holtschlag

## DHS&EM

Kim Pontibrand  
Claire Marie



**Soldier Reaps G-RAP Rewards.** Private Joshua Savo, a member of the Alaska Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 297th Infantry, received a check for \$2,000 as part of the new Guard Recruiting Assistance Program (G-RAP), which gives Soldiers the opportunity to earn cash rewards for bringing new recruits into the Army National Guard. G-RAP offers participants \$1,000 for bringing in a prospect and another \$1,000 if that recruit goes to basic training. Even more valuable than the \$2,000, Savo received a commander's coin, a collectible among military members, from Colonel Stephen Williams, commander of the Alaska Army National Guard's 207th Infantry Brigade. Photo: Kalei Brooks, DMVA Public Affairs

## Warriors Training Schedule

Here are the inactive training dates for all Alaska Army and Air National Guard units. Dates for subordinate units are the same as their parent headquarters, unless otherwise indicated. All dates are subject to change. Most Alaska Army Guard units perform annual training (AT) through the winter.

Alaska National Guard	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.
Joint Forces Headquarters – Alaska (Air)	5-6	23-24	14-15
Joint Forces Headquarters – Alaska (Army)	5-6	23-24	14-15
<b>Alaska Army National Guard</b>			
207th Infantry Group	4-6	23-24	14-15
1/207th Aviation Regiment	4-6	22-24	14-15
297th Support Battalion	4-6	No Drill	14-15
Regional Training Institute	19-20	16-17	14-15
<b>Alaska Air National Guard</b>			
168th Air Refueling Wing	5-6	23-24	14-15
176th Wing	5-6	23-24	14-15
<b>Alaska State Defense Force</b>			
Headquarters	19-20	16-17	21-22
Academy	19-20	16-17	21-22

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