



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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By Tech. Sgt. N. Alicia Halla

Alaska Air Guardsmen celebrate service in Anchorage's first-ever Veterans Day Parade

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska — More than 50 Guardsmen of the 176th Wing joined current and former military members in Anchorage's first Veterans Day Parade downtown on Nov. 7.

There were approximately 250 active service members participating in the parade, according to Art Bell, a member of the Anchorage Veterans Day Parade Committee.

This has been the largest group of actively serving veterans to march in downtown Anchorage, he said.

"Just to see the support from the community was awesome," said Staff Sgt. Nathan Namaau, the lead organizer for the wing's parade participation.

Representatives from the 176th Security Forces, 176th Civil Engineer Squadron, 176th Maintenance Operations Flight and 176th Wing Student Flight showcased how Guardsmen serve the local community beyond their military duties. Guardsmen who also work in state and city law enforcement drove their patrol cars, and a Guardsman led her dog-sled team through the parade route.

Namaau reflected on the crowd cheering as the recent deployment-returnees of the 176th Security Forces passed by with family members.

"To get the recognition they deserve [as Guardsmen], that, to me, was moving," Namaau said.

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PHOTOS

1. **Attached pdf** includes story and photos.

2. **DVIDS link** includes story and photos. (DVIDS is generally accessible from .mil computers)

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/181650/alaska-air-guardsmen-celebrate-service-anchorage-first-ever-veterans-day-parade>



JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska -- More than 50 airmen of the Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Wing joined approximately 200 other military members to represent actively-serving veterans in Anchorage's first-ever Veterans Day Parade on Nov. 7, 2015. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. N. Alicia Halla/ Released)



JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska -- Members of the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne), 25th Infantry Division participated in Anchorage's first-ever Veterans Day Parade on Nov. 7, 2015. More than 50 airmen of the Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Wing joined approximately 200 other military members to represent actively-serving veterans for the celebration. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. N. Alicia Halla/ Released)



JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska -- More than 50 airmen of the Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Wing joined approximately 200 other military members to represent actively-serving veterans in Anchorage's first-ever Veterans Day Parade on Nov. 7, 2015. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. N. Alicia Halla/ Released)