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Alaska Army Guardsmen receive new leadership, set to deploy to Middle East

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska — The Alaska Army National Guardsmen of the 208th Construction Management Team, 297th Regional Support Group, were recognized for their upcoming deployment to U.S. Army Central Command Area of Responsibility with an activation ceremony, directly following a change of command ceremony Sept. 9.

The 208th Construction Management Team will be supporting troops already deployed for Operation Enduring Freedom, Spartan Shield.

During the change of command portion of the ceremony, the outgoing commander, Cpt. Jennifer Nett, said a few words in recognition of her time in the unit, as well as wishing them well on their upcoming deployment. Following Nett's remarks, the incoming commander, Lt. Col. Mark Kelliher, also spoke in regards to the upcoming deployment.

The activation portion of the ceremony followed, with a casing of the unit's colors in preparation for the unit's nine-month deployment.

Col. Peter Mondelli, commander of the 297th Regional Support Group, said that the unit was given short notice for the deployment and has been very flexible and worked very hard in their preparation.

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PHOTOS

1. **Attached pdf** includes story and a small selection of low-resolution photos for viewing on screen.
2. **Flickr link** includes an event album with the complete selection of full-resolution, free downloadable images. (May not be accessible from all military computers.)

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/alaskanationalguard/albums/72157695396278200>

Photos, next page



Lt. Col. Mark Kelliher passes the unit colors during the change of command portion of the ceremony for the 208th Construction Management Team, 297th Regional Support Group at Joint Elmendorf-Richardson Sept. 9, 2018. The ceremony followed with an activation portion, honoring the unit for their upcoming deployment in which Kelliher will be a part of as the incoming unit commander. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Grace Nechanicky/Released)



During an activation ceremony in which the 208th Construction Management Team, 297th Regional Support Group is recognized for an upcoming deployment to the U.S. Army Central Command Area of Responsibility, the unit's colors are cased at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Sept. 9, 2018. The ceremony also included a change of command portion in which Lt. Col. Mark Kelliher took over command of the unit that will be involved in the mission to support troops already deployed for Operation Enduring Freedom, Spartan Shield. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Grace Nechanicky/Released)