

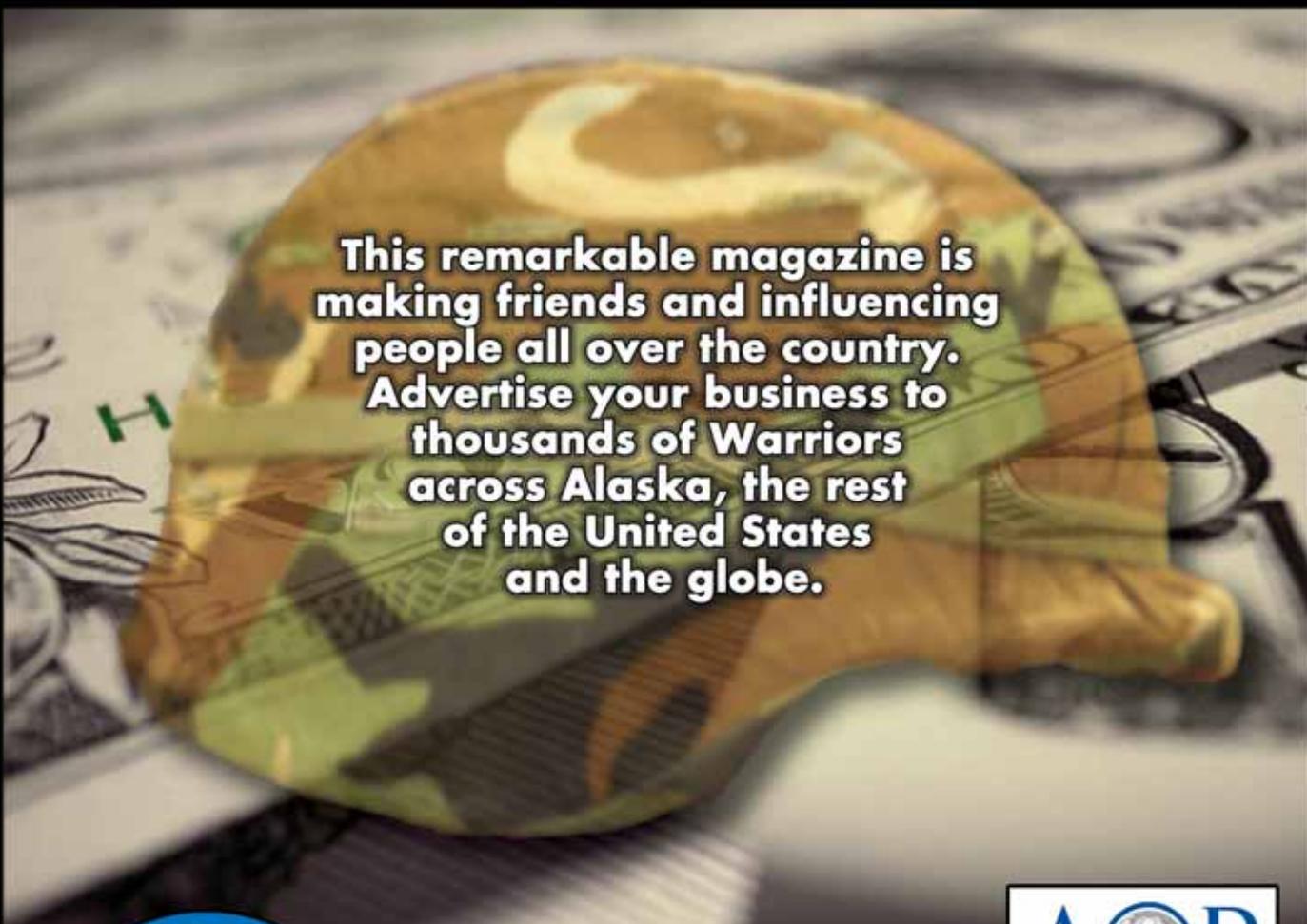
Annual Report

For the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs

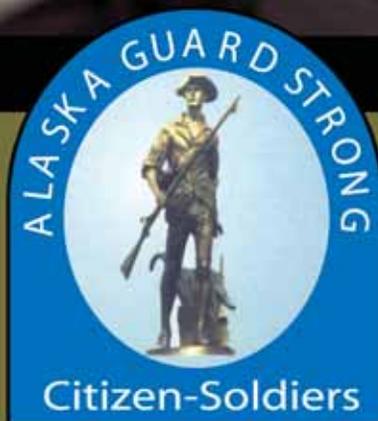
2005



In the Guard and in business? Have we got a deal for you!



This remarkable magazine is making friends and influencing people all over the country. Advertise your business to thousands of Warriors across Alaska, the rest of the United States and the globe.



(907) 562-9300



*To advertise in the Warriors magazine,
call today for your Guard Strong discount.*



Governor Frank H. Murkowski
Commander in Chief



Major General Craig E. Campbell
Commissioner of the DMVA
and The Adjutant General

Major Michael L. Haller
Managing Editor / State Public Affairs Officer

Susan Harrington
Editor

Gloria Schein
Graphic Artist

Contributors, Writers & Photojournalists

Brigadier General Craig Christensen
JFHQ-AK (Army)

Brigadier General Tim Scott
JFHQ-AK (Air)

Lieutenant Colonel David Lowell
JFHQ-AK (Air)

Jerry Beale
Alaska Veterans Affairs

John Cramer & Rick Turcic
Division of Administrative Services

Jamie Littrell
DHS&EM

Warrant Officer 1 Amanda Isakson
Alaska State Defense Force

Kalei Brooks
DMVA Public Information Officer

Ken Fankhauser & Christine Nangel
DMVA Public Affairs

Mark Farmer
Photojournalist, topcover.com

Staff Sergeant Ken Denny
117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Sergeant Sara Storey, 100th MDB
Missile Defense Program

Al Grillo
Associated Press

JO1 Steven Vasquez
U.S Navy

Lieutenant Joseph Conroy
212th Rescue Squadron

Technical Sergeant Roger Dey
Montana Air National Guard

Valdez Star

Danny Daniels
Alaska Military Youth Academy

Technical Sergeant Julie Avey
168th Air Refueling Wing

Bob Ulin **Mary Soldin**
Publisher Sales Manager

DMVA

2005 ANNUAL REPORT



Deployments and Transformation. A year unlike others for the DMVA. A year of great challenge, a year of significant success. Sergeant Phillip Chang, 117th MPAD, of the Alaska Army National Guard, on patrol near the King's Tomb in Kabul, Afghanistan, looking out as the sun dawned on a new day.

Photo: Sergeant Benjamin T. Donde, U.S. Army

Reports:

DMVA...By the Numbers4	Veterans16
DMVA Organizational Chart5	Space & Missile Defense17
Dispatches From the Front6	Alaska State Defense Force . .17
Alaska Army National Guard . . .7	Youth Academy18
Where in the World10	Civil Support Team19
Alaska Air National Guard12	Naval Militia19
Homeland Security14	Awards & Recognitions20



Deepening Our Friendship. Major General Craig E. Campbell, center, shares a moment with other senior Mongolian and American leaders while on a visit to Ulaanbaatar. Mongolians and Alaskans shared numerous exchanges during 2005. Photo: Staff Sergeant Ken Denny, 117th MPAD

The DMVA Annual Report is a special project of Warriors Magazine. It is published, as required by State statute, to explain the annual missions and activities of the employees and military members of the Department of Defense, Alaska National Guard, and State of Alaska that are assigned within the Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs.

The DMVA Annual Report is a commercial enterprise publication, produced in partnership with the State of Alaska, Alaska National Guard, Department of Defense, Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, PO Box 5800, Camp Denali, Ft. Richardson, Alaska 99505-0800, phone number (907) 428-6031, fax 428-6949; and, AQP Publishing, Inc., 8537 Corbin Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99507. All photos are credited to the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs unless otherwise identified.

The DMVA Annual Report is an authorized publication for the employees and members of the Department of Defense, Alaska National Guard, and Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs. Contents of The DMVA Annual Report are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by the U.S. Government, the Department of Defense, the Departments of the Army and the Air Force, the Alaska National Guard, the State of Alaska, or the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs.

Published by AQP Publishing, Inc., a private firm in no way connected with the Department of Defense, Departments of the Army and the Air Force, Alaska National Guard, or State of Alaska, under exclusive written contract with Alaska National Guard.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts or supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of Defense, Departments of the Army and the Air Force, Alaska National Guard, State of Alaska or AQP Publishing, Inc., of the products or services advertised. Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user, or patron.

Distribution: The DMVA Annual Report is distributed free of charge for Office of the Governor, the Alaska Legislature, members of the United States Congress, senior State and Federal government and military leaders, interested citizens, current employees, military members, veterans, and their families. It is available free of charge, via mail and distribution, through each division within the department. It is also available free from our Web site: www.ak-prepared.com/dmva.

HOW TO REACH US:

The DMVA Annual Report
Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs
Office of Public Affairs
PO Box 5800, Camp Denali
Ft. Richardson, Alaska 99505-0800
(907) 428-6031 / Fax 428-6949

Ready to Serve

This document was printed at no cost to the State of Alaska.
Circulation: 1,000



Moving Forward

Governor Frank H. Murkowski
Commander in Chief

Successes of DMVA Are Abundant



What They Do Matters. Governor Frank Murkowski called upon employees of the DMVA and members of the Alaska National Guard and Alaska State Defense Force to provide for homeland security and defense in 2005. The department not only responded to several significant disasters and emergencies within Alaska, but also deployed hundreds of troops to Afghanistan, Iraq and the Horn of Africa.

Photo: Courtesy of Governor's Office

The Alaska Military Youth Academy's ChalleNGe Program is the epitome of so many good things. More than 200 youngsters graduate from their courses each year – their lives forever changed, their futures more secure, their dreams about to be realized.

We have advanced our growing partnership with Mongolia in a substantive way. We've shared military to military exchanges; discussed common challenges of distances, resourcing and readiness for disasters and emergencies; and we've increased our government and cultural relationships.

One of the things dearest to the hearts of many Alaskans is the work the DMVA has accomplished on behalf of our veterans. There are almost no words to describe the value of DMVA leadership in their efforts to gain federal veterans' status and recognition for members of our Alaska Territorial Guard and their families. This assignment, simple as it sounds, has taken a significant dedication to accomplish on behalf of these World War II veterans.

We could cite nearly any veteran's activity and I believe you'd find the signature of the DMVA upon it: a credit to an extraordinary team – professionals and volunteers alike.

Nancy and I treasure the opportunities we get to visit with employees of the DMVA, members of our Alaska National Guard, volunteers and all of the families. We have always appreciated the unfailing dedication and focus on their numerous and unique missions.

It is clear the men and women of the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs are ready to serve. It is my pleasure to again commend their annual report to you.

With warm regards and very best wishes,

Frank H. Murkowski
Governor and Commander in Chief

The successes of the Department of the Military & Veterans Affairs are abundant. Their activities impact their fellow Alaskans daily.

In 2005, hundreds of our fellow Alaskans continued to answer the call to defend Alaska and our nation in response to the war on terror. We know them as our neighbors, our community leaders, our baker, banker or teacher. We know them as members of our Alaska National Guard. In these past months, and even today, they are serving in Afghanistan, Iraq, Kuwait, the Horn of Africa and other locations.

The sacrifices of the Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management and the other divisions within the DMVA are also extraordinary. Simply put, their combined record of accomplishment is substantial. Their commitment to service is selfless.

When a number of our coastal communities faced tough sea storms this past year, our emergency services teams

stepped forward to support local authorities and their fellow Alaskans. It is not only "what they do," it is also their manner and sense of devotion and duty.

"...their work is essential to our safety – a credit to an extraordinary team..."

Members of our Alaska State Defense Force and the Alaska Naval Militia have also added an important contribution to our homeland security. Their work is essential to our safety.



My Turn

Major General Craig E. Campbell

Adjutant General, Alaska National Guard & Commissioner, Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs

A Year of Deployments and Transformation



Winning Ways. Alaska's Major General Craig Campbell, Commissioner of the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, joined by Brigadier General Craig Christensen and Mr. John Cramer (right) met with senior Mongolian civil and military leaders to discuss cultural and operational activities shared in common. Photo: Kalel Brooks, JFHQ-AK

2005 was another remarkable year in the activities of the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs. Our Soldiers, Airmen and civilian employees were engaged in missions across the State of Alaska and around the world.

From helping their fellow Alaskans responding to Bering Sea storms to giving aid with recoveries from the massive Tsunami in the Indian Ocean and Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, every person in each of our divisions has made a significant contribution to our mission successes.

Our Soldiers and Airmen successfully continued with their wartime missions in Iraq, Afghanistan and the Horn of Africa. We've also continued to develop our wonderful friendship with Mongolia.

We've continued to deepen our readiness levels in the operations of America's Missile Defense Program at Fort Greely. We've provided the right mix of experienced, qualified Soldiers to sustain this important effort.

We're expanding the operational initiatives at Clear Air Force Station. About two-thirds of the military forces

there are now members of the Alaska Air National Guard. The station is transforming from a remote site to a place where families are welcomed.

The Base Relocation and Closure Commission, also known as BRAC, played an important role in our lives. We faced extreme challenges at Eielson Air Force Base, Kulis Air National Guard Base and Galena Air Force Station. In the end, a very unique group of Alaskans stepped forward and made their voices heard to the commission – from Governor Murkowski to Senators Stevens and Murkowski, Representative Young, our Alaska Legislature and thousands of Alaskans. The results: Eielson Air Force Base remains open and viable; the 176th Wing will move from Kulis to Elmendorf Air Force Base – so long as sufficient funding is assigned to support the move; and while Galena will be closed, an extraordinary effort is underway to develop new uses for this important regional transportation hub.

We continued our quest to honor our veterans in significant ways. Among the numerous examples: the groundbreaking

for construction of a new Veterans & Pioneers Home in Palmer – the first in Alaska, and our continuing efforts to identify and pay tribute to the former members of the Alaska Territorial Guard and their families. These fine men and women are finally getting their just recognitions as World War II veterans from our nation.

The Alaska Military Youth Academy and the STARBASE program are each shining stars in education and youth movements in our State and across the nation. They are at the top of the game.

The transformation of our department continues with energy, vitality and determination. You'll find plenty of examples within these pages. As our journey continues, we invite your review of our mission accomplishments and also take this opportunity to extend an open invitation for you and your colleagues to visit us.

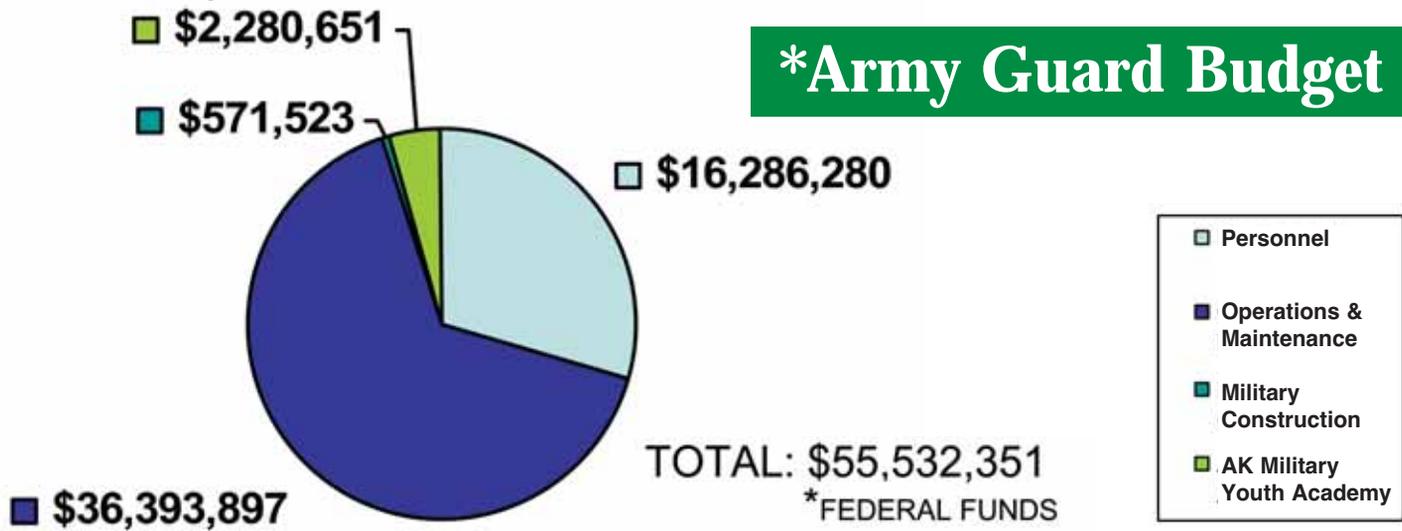
Very respectfully,

Major General Craig E. Campbell

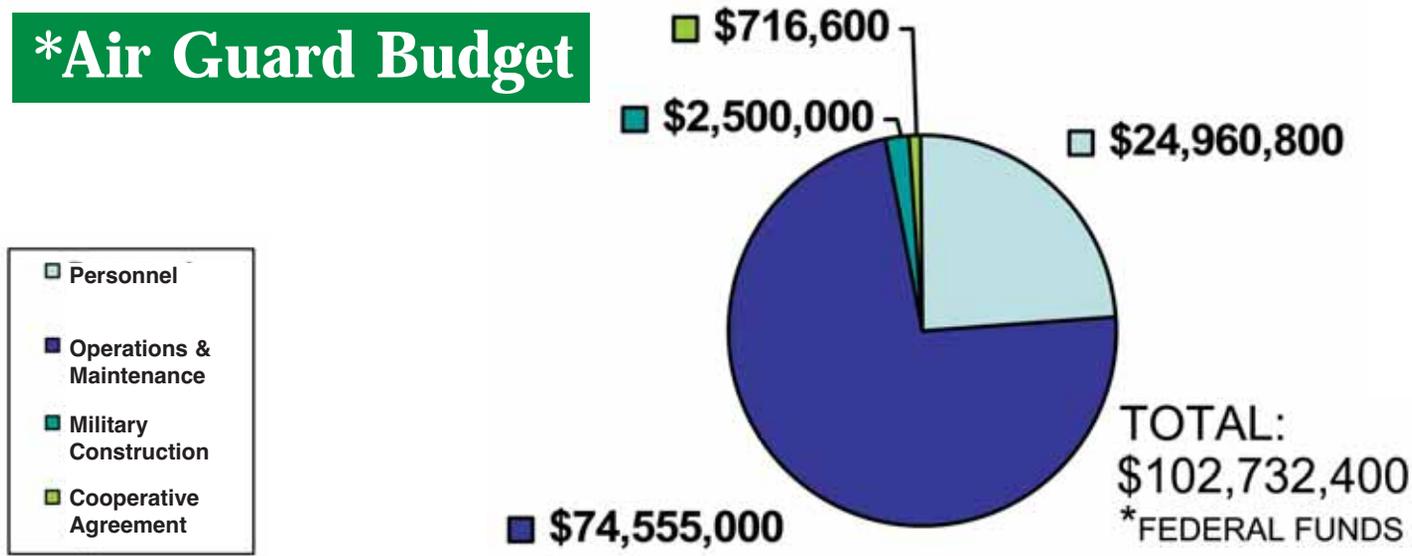
DMVA... By the Numbers

State Funding Important to Federal Support of Alaska National Guard

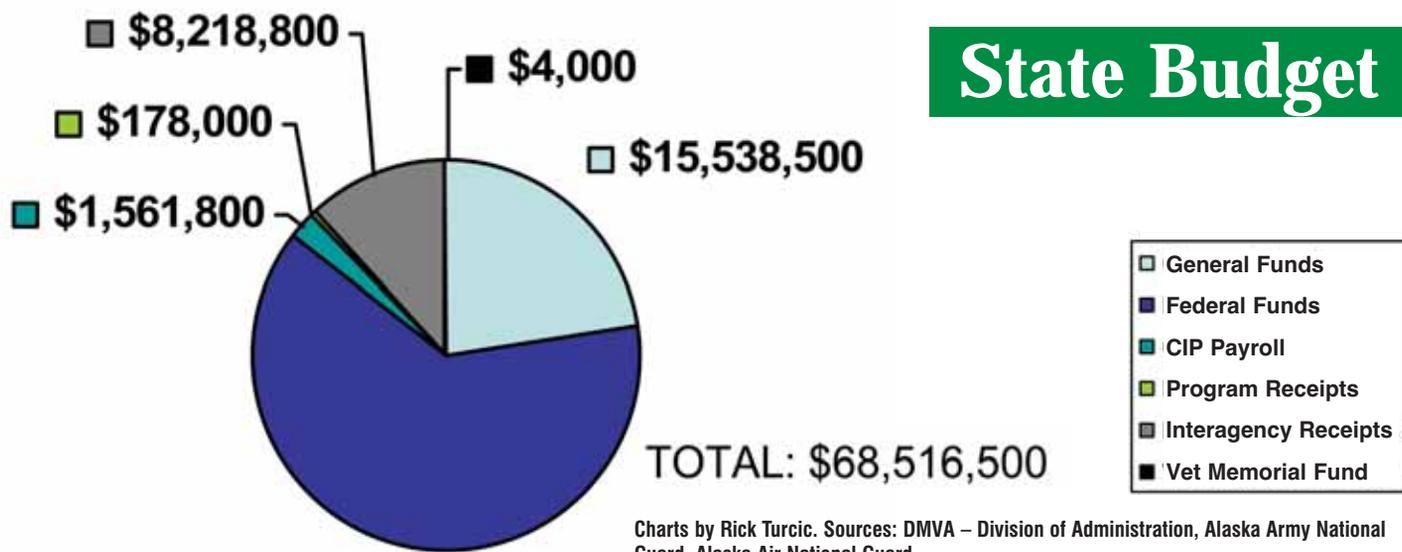
*Army Guard Budget



*Air Guard Budget

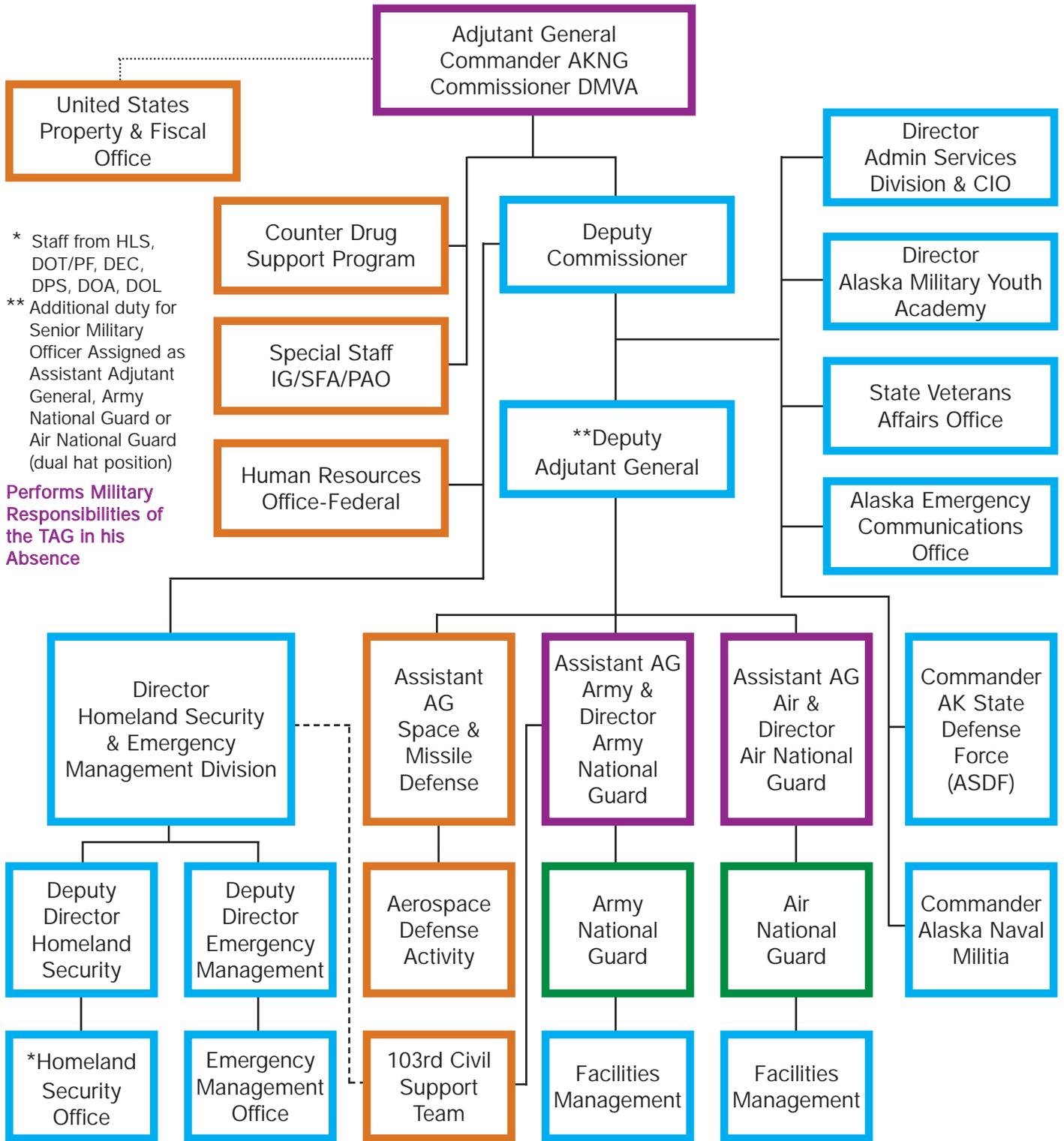


State Budget



Charts by Rick Turcic. Sources: DMVA – Division of Administration, Alaska Army National Guard, Alaska Air National Guard.

Department of Military & Veterans Affairs



* Staff from HLS, DOT/PF, DEC, DPS, DOA, DOL
 ** Additional duty for Senior Military Officer Assigned as Assistant Adjutant General, Army National Guard or Air National Guard (dual hat position)

Performs Military Responsibilities of the TAG in his Absence

.....Coordination -----Supervisory Control (When Designated)

	State		Federal		Combination State & Federal Depending on status: Normally State during M-F work week. Paid Federally when in military status, unless called to State Active Duty.		Federally paid but may be called to State Active Duty
--	-------	--	---------	--	---	--	---



Dispatches from the Front...

What It Means to Be Ready to Serve...



More Troops Head to War. A 10-ship formation of the Alaska Army National Guard's 207th Aviation Battalion deployed to Iraq in 2005. The Soldiers, each of them experienced Alaskan flyers, were brought together from across the State to meet the challenges of the 15-plus month assignment to the war zone. More than 300 Alaska Army National Guard Soldiers were serving overseas as the year ended. Likewise, more than 150 Alaska Air National Guard Airmen were deployed to the Horn of Africa, Afghanistan and Iraq. According to officials, nearly 1,000 members of the Army and the Air Guard are expected to deploy in 2006. Photo: Major Mike Haller, JFHQ-AK

Cleaning Up Neighborhoods

297th Support Battalion Puts Shoulder to Wheel

For the 12th year, Operation "Bumper Drag" paired Soldiers of Alaska's Army National Guard and their neighbors in clearing out and cleaning up the environment. The Alaska Army National Guard's 297th Support Battalion Soldiers again took their cleanup efforts into the Matanuska-Susitna Borough this summer. More than 100 Guard members, using 40 trucks, worked with participants from the borough's cleanup program on the annual three-day event.

This year's Bumper Drag worked in several sites removing autos: the Old Sutton Landfill; Jim Creek; Maud/Dike Road; the Knik River Bridge; and the Matanuska Townsite. The results are the reward: they removed hundreds of derelict cars and trucks along with a range of utility items. According to officials, the annual event improves the safety of their communities while reclaiming the beauty of their surroundings. ■



Environmental Overhaul. Alaska National Guard continues with Operation Bumper Drag – the annual cleanup of scrap vehicles from around the Mat-Su Borough.

Photo: Courtesy of Alaska National Guard

Alaska Army National Guard

Transformation and Deployments Continue

Doing our best.

The Alaska Army National Guard includes the Army Element, Joint Forces Headquarters, an Infantry Group (Scout) that includes three Infantry Battalions, an Aviation Battalion and a Support Battalion. Additional units include a Missile Defense Battalion, a Civil Support Team, Regional Training Institute, a Medical Detachment and a Public Affairs Detachment. These diverse units are home to 1800+ Soldiers and involve stationing in 73 locations throughout Alaska. With the increase in Army National Guard deployments, many of our Soldiers are preparing for deployment or are preparing others for deployment in support of federal and State missions.



A Year of Transformation. Brigadier General Craig Christensen, Assistant Adjutant General-Army, addressed the Alaska Broadcasters Association on current and growing missions of the Alaska Army National Guard during their annual meeting. Photo: Major Mike Haller, JFHQM-AK

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

2005 was the most active year for the Alaska Army National Guard since the organization was established. Mobilizations and deployments of Soldiers exceed all previous records to include World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam War and Desert Storm collectively. While engaged in the largest deployment in our history, to initiating the most significant reorganization of the Scouts, to aggressively replacing outdated Armories and Readiness Centers, 2005 proved to be a “benchmark” year for the Alaska Army National Guard.

Operation Iraqi Freedom (Iraq)

- Company A, 3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry (Scout) that mobilized with 133 Alaska Army Guard Soldiers in October 2004, deployed to Iraq in January 2005. These Soldiers are stationed in South Baghdad at Camp Victory and are currently serving with the 29th Infantry Brigade from Hawaii. Their year of “boots on the ground” in Iraq is programmed to end in January 2006. Soldiers should be back in Alaska shortly thereafter.

- Company E, 1-207th Aviation with 29 Soldiers mobilized in January 2005. Soon after mobilization, the unit deployed to Kuwait with mission assignments in Iraq. Support missions are being accomplished using C-23 “Sherpa” fixed-wing aircraft which were pre-positioned in country. The unit is flying missions throughout Iraq from the Baghdad Airport, as well as out of

Kuwait. Their year of “boots on the ground” is programmed to end in the February 2006 time frame.

- Company B, 1st Battalion, 207th Aviation Regiment mobilized in June 2005 with 58 Soldiers and 10 UH-60L Black Hawk helicopters. The unit was deployed into Iraq in August 2005. They are serving in support of the 172nd Stryker Brigade.
- The 1st Battalion, 297th Infantry (Scout) Headquarters with 70 Alaska Army Guard Soldiers mobilized in September 2005 and shipped to Fort Dix, New Jersey, for intensive training prior to deploying into Iraq in November 2005. They will remain in-country for one year.
- Two Alaska Army National Guard Soldiers presently deployed in Iraq are serving with a coalition forces Mongolia battalion within country. These Soldiers, at the request of the Mongolian armed forces, deployed in March 2005 and are programmed to return to Alaska in February 2006.
- There are four individual Guardmembers who volunteered and are serving in Iraq with other units. They were set to return from Iraq in the Fall of 2005.

Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan)

- Eight Soldiers of the 117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment mobilized in January 2005 and deployed to Afghanistan in support of coalition operations. They are assigned in at least four different locations within Afghanistan. Our Alaskans are teamed up with a dozen Hawaiians that fill out the unit. They are set to redeploy in the March 2006 time frame.
- A Mobile Training Team, consisting of eight Soldiers from the 3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry (Scout), is deployed serving with several Afghanistan Infantry Battalions. These Soldiers deployed in February 2005 and are due to return to Alaska in the February 2006 time frame.

Ground Based Mid-Course Ballistic Missile Defense

The Missile Defense Program is our only means to intercept and destroy hostile intercontinental ballistic missiles that pose a threat to America. The system provides early detection and tracking during the boost phase and precision intercept and destruction of the target in mid-course flight while also providing post-attack kill assessment. The Guard is responsible for staffing, operating, securing and defending this strategic national asset.

In 2005, the Alaska Army Guard Missile Defense Program:

- Met all operational training and logistical requirements and was fully prepared to assume this mission.
- Recruited, trained and moved an additional 95 Soldiers and their families to Fort Greely to meet the operational requirements. More than 180 Alaska Army Guard Soldiers and their families are stationed at Fort Greely.
- Established a process that serves as a model for future application of National Guardsmen to perform Federal Title 10 National Defense missions while serving in State Title 32 status.

FACILITIES:

The Alaska Army Guard has embraced an aggressive program to modernize or replace outdated Federal Scout Armories and Readiness Centers. Progress, to date, includes completion of a long-running modernization initiative focused on Federal Scout

Armories and new Readiness Centers, either under construction or pending future construction.

Environmental: The Alaska Army Guard Environmental Section received the National Environmental Stewardship Award, presented to the best Guard environmental program. The coveted award ranks the environmental programs of all 54 states and territories using criteria that includes conservation, resource and compliance programs. During the past year, more than 25 tons of waste was removed from 26 sites, and spill response training was provided to 20 locations. Additionally, 50 tons of contaminated soil was removed from four village sites. Forty-seven remote villages were visited for compliance assistance, inspection and waste inventory. No EPA Notices of Violation were received in this reporting period.

Federal Scout Armories: Three new Federal Scout Armories were completed in 2005. The Alaska Army Guard was able to use 100 percent federal funding (\$1.5 million). The construction of these last three facilities completes a multi-year effort to modernize and increase the energy efficiency of the Federal Scout Armory program.

Bryant Airfield: During the summer of 2005, \$1.2 million in safety improvements were made to the Bryant runway and Hangar 47431 to accommodate the Aviation Battalion Headquarters. Additionally, the construction of a \$1.3 million new vehicle storage/supply facility was also completed for the 103rd Civil Support Team.

Camp Denali: Groundbreaking commenced in the Fall of 2005 for three Controlled Humidity Vehicle Storage Buildings on Camp Denali. When completed, the 60,000 square-foot facilities will house the majority of the Alaska Army Guard vehicles and equipment. This project will greatly enhance the Guard's rapid response and readiness capabilities.

Alaska Army National Guard Readiness Centers: The Alaska Army Guard has three major Readiness Center initiatives underway. The new Juneau Army Guard Readiness Center was completed in August 2005. This project represents the first Guard partnership in Alaska to build a joint facility. The Alaska Army Guard and the University of Alaska Southeast share a joint facility that is home to the Guard's Readiness Center and the University Students Recreational Center. At a total cost of \$15.5 million, the Alaska Army Guard portion of the funding came in at \$10 million – providing for the use of approximately 45,000 square feet of the total 55,000 square feet. Accompanying the facility is a new \$3 million Alaska Army Guard Field Maintenance Shop, completed in August 2005.

The Bethel Army National Guard Readiness Center design is completed and land has been secured from the City of Bethel on which to build a new \$24 million facility. Initial site preparation work was completed in 2005. Construction is set to begin in the spring of 2007 provided federal funding is approved. The old Guard Armory will be turned over to the City of Bethel once the new Readiness Center is completed.

The Alaska Army Guard secured a lease from the City of Nome to acquire 10 acres of land to construct a new Alaska Army Guard Readiness Center in March 2005. The new Nome Readiness Center initiative involves taking Bethel's existing plans and site adapting them to the Nome location. This will result in significant savings in terms of design dollars and time with project approval and funding. Once the new Readiness Center is constructed, the old facility will be turned over to the city.

RELEVANCE AND MISSIONING:

The Alaska Army Guard continues to seek relevance and missioning to ensure resourcing and a positive future.

- In 2005, the Alaska Army Guard finalized force structure programming in support of transformation activities. This will lead to increased resourcing and relevance for the Alaska Army Guard. As a part of this national effort, the Alaska Army Guard's 207th Infantry Group (Scout) will transform into a new Infantry Brigade Combat Team with force structure partnerships forged with other states and territories. When completed, the 207th Infantry Group will become the 207th Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Scout) and will mirror new Army and Army National Guard Infantry force structure. The effective date (E-date) for affecting the transformation is September 2008. The unit will transform provisionally in September 2007.

- The 1-207th Aviation Battalion will complete transformation in federal fiscal year 2006 as a part of an Army initiative to modernize and transform all aviation units. The battalion will convert from a Combat Support Aviation Battalion to an Air Assault Battalion where the number of UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters will increase from 24 to 30 aircraft. One company of the unit will be stationed in Hawaii.

- The Alaska Army Guard has a significant requirement to replace its fixed wing aircraft fleet with a more capable airframe. The current Alaska Army Guard fleet consists of eight C-23 Sherpa aircraft. The Sherpa has a severely limited flight capability with a ceiling of less than 10,000 feet and an inability to land on unimproved and gravel runways. In 2005, the Alaska Army Guard capitalized on an initiative to acquire a new fixed-wing aircraft along with the Army. The Alaska Army Guard is programmed to receive at least four of the Army's newest fixed-wing cargo aircraft. Negotiations are presently underway to acquire up to eight new aircraft to support operations in Alaska and throughout the Pacific Theater. This initiative calls for partnering with Hawaii and Guam. The Army is set to select the final aircraft from a pool of several candidates by June 2006, with fielding to begin in federal fiscal year 2008.

TRAINING AND READINESS:

Throughout the past year, the Guard has achieved notable accomplishments in the area of training and readiness of individual Soldiers and units. This includes –

Alaska Shield/Northern Edge: Alaska's premier joint training exercise designed to practice operations and enhance operability among the services and civil government. Exercises in even years (2004, 2006, etc.) are two-week-long events and focus on air-centric military operational plan modules. Odd year exercises (2005, 2007, etc.) are one-week-long exercises that focus on Homeland Security and Homeland Defense. In 2005, the Alaska Army Guard played a significant role in Northern Edge. The 1st Battalion, from the Nome region, trained 92 Soldiers in Homeland Security and Anti-Terrorism and Force Protection missions at the Flint Hills refinery at North Pole. The 3rd Battalion, headquartered in Juneau, trained more than 60 Soldiers in similar missions in Ketchikan and Juneau. Unit training was complimented by Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 207th Group, stationed in Anchorage where the command and staff performed battle tracking and command and control functions of deployed units. Additionally, the Alaska Army and Air National Guard formed a "Joint Staff" and established a Joint Operations Center to exercise command and control over all Alaska National Guard forces in the exercise. This "Joint Staff" capability is directly transferable to command and control day-to-day Homeland Security and Disaster Response missions within the State.



The Next Generation. Both the C-27J Spartan and the C-295 Airlifter are in competition as the next generation aircraft to support Army National Guard requirements across Alaska, the Pacific and the Lower 48. Guard aviators are looking forward to this new mission aircraft. Photos: Mark Farmer, topcover.com

MILITARY SUPPORT TO CIVIL AUTHORITIES:

The Alaska Army Guard has a long history of providing support to civil authorities. Whether the mission is search and rescue, medical evacuation, site security or improving the quality of life for Alaskans, the Guard stands ready to provide quality support. Among many examples –

Arctic Care 2005: This jointly supported mission involves the Alaska Army Guard, the Alaska Air Guard, the Active Army, the Coast Guard, the Public Health Service and other Reserve forces. The military forces, in testing their deployability capabilities, provide acute dental and veterinary services to underserved areas within Alaska. 2005’s Arctic Care was based

out of Kodiak and Galena. Locations serviced included Kodiak, Galena, Huslia, Ruby, Koyukuk, Nulato and Kaltag – hundreds of Alaskans received services.

Search & Rescue: In 2005, the Alaska Army Guard Aviators flew seven Medical Evacuation and Search & Rescue missions and were credited with five lives saved. Additionally, the Alaska Army Guard trained and prepared crews to respond in support of wild land fires.

Very respectfully,

Brigadier General Craig Christensen

Alaska National Guard

Counter Drug Program is Among Best in Nation

The Alaska National Guard’s Counter Drug Support Program (CDSP) assisted in training more than 600 law enforcement officers in 2005. Likewise, the Guard’s Drug Demand Reduction Program reached out to approximately 53,000 youth through support to 97 schools and five community based organizations.

During federal fiscal year 2005, CDSP assisted Alaska law enforcement agencies in 29 law enforcement operations. During these activities, law enforcement officers seized 1,800 cannabis plants, 45 pounds of processed marijuana, 50 pounds of cocaine, three pounds of methamphetamines, 73 weapons, 234 liters of alcohol and \$239,165 in currency. Additionally, there were 359 arrests.

The total value of the interdicted illicit and illegal drugs and seized vehicles and property was nearly \$6.7 million in value. The impact and effect of the Alaska National Guard’s Counter Drug Support Program was significant in reducing drug availability in Alaska in 2005.

Soldier readiness is especially important in these times. To ensure the National Guard remains drug free, CDSP is responsible for administering the National Guard Bureau’s urinalysis program. The Bureau’s testing target is 60 percent. The Alaska Army National Guard exceeded the National Guard Bureau’s goal by testing over 80 percent in 2005. ■

Where in the World



Planning for the Future. U.S. Ambassador to Mongolia, Pamela Slutz, meets with Major General Craig Campbell, Brigadier General Craig Christensen and other leaders to discuss Alaskan and Mongolian relationships and activities. Photo: Kalei Brooks, JFHQ-AK

Mongolia

Japan

Thailand
Indonesia



On Guard. Soldiers from Bravo Company, 1/297th Infantry, Alaska Army National Guard, stood guard at Flint Hills Refinery near Fairbanks, during a simulated terrorist attack at Alaska Shield/Northern Edge 2005 exercises. The training events provided a wide range of simulated natural disasters and terrorist activities to challenge civilian and military first responders. Photo: Technical Sergeant Brian Schlumbolm, 168th Air Refueling Wing

Kaktovik
Eielson AFB
Fort Greely
Clear AFS
Camp Denali
Kulis ANG Base
Elmendorf AFB



Kaktovik Relief Effort. Alaska Air National Guard broke through a severe storm to save nearly 300 lives in a remote village.

Photo: Al Grillo, Associated Press, with permission

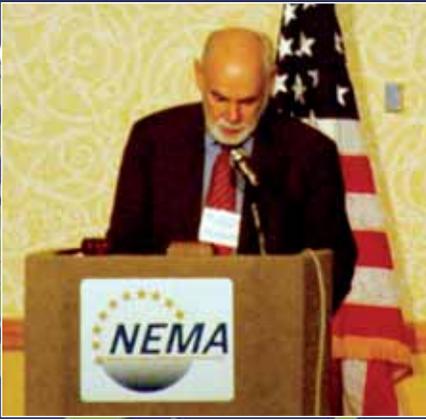


Measuring Up. Major Alden Weg, of the U.S. Army's MEDDAC, provided care and medical screening for patients of all sizes during his two-week deployment in support of Operation Arctic Care. Uniformed health-care providers served hundreds of medical, dental and canine patients during their annual tour in rural Alaska. Photo: Courtesy of Alaska National Guard



Crankin' Rotors In Haiti. Maintainers got an Alaska Army National Guard UH-60L Black Hawk helicopter ready for operations in support of "New Horizons" exercise in Haiti. American Forces are assisting with building clinics and schools and restoring infrastructure in the aftermath of last year's Hurricane Jeanne.

Photo: JO1 Steven Vasquez, US Navy



Leading From the Front. Dave Liebersbach, Director of Alaska's Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management, served as president of the National Emergency Management Association during 2004-05. The Association held its most recent meeting in Anchorage. Photo: Jamie Littrell, DHS&EM



Training to Defeat the Taliban. Alaska Army National Guard Soldiers are part of the team busy training the new Afghan National Army. Photo: Courtesy Alaska Army National Guard

• Louisiana



Hurricane Katrina Help. Alaska Air National Guard Master Sergeant Steve Slagle, 212th Rescue Squadron, was one of the more than 40 Alaska National Guard members who deployed to Hurricane Katrina affected areas to assist in relief and recovery efforts. Slagle and four others from the 212th Rescue Squadron were working out of New Orleans, La., helping with search and rescue missions. The Alaska pararescue team saved 300 people. Photo: Lieutenant Joseph Conroy, 212th Rescue Squadron



A Busy Skyway. C-23 Sherpa aircraft from Echo Company, 1st Battalion-207th Aviation, traverse the skies between Kuwait and Iraq daily. Photo: Courtesy Alaska Army National Guard

• Iraq • Kuwait • Afghanistan

A Helping Hand. A Soldier from 3rd Battalion-297th Infantry helps an Iraqi child with a minor play related injury while on patrol. The battalion deployed to Iraq in January of 2005. Photo: Courtesy Alaska Army National Guard



Street Wise - New Friends Help Secure Their Neighborhood. Guard Soldiers from Alaska's 3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry, on patrol near Camp Victory, Iraq, meet with local neighbors who want stability and security for their families. Photo: Courtesy Alaska National Guard

Alaska Air National Guard

Readiness in Action



Building New Trails in Iraq. Airmen of the Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Civil Engineering Squadron deployed to northern Iraq in the fall of 2005. They brought all of the experience and capabilities of a small construction company and the determination to succeed in tough circumstances. Photo: Courtesy Alaska Air National Guard

READINESS IN ACTION

The Alaska Air National Guard battle cry for 2005 was "readiness in action." Throughout the year, Guardmembers were busy saving and protecting Alaskans while simultaneously serving in both combat and non-combat roles abroad and in the United States. The 1,900-plus Alaskans assigned to the Air National Guard spent a busy year showing how effective their training was during multiple missions and deployments. The scope of missions performed by our two flying wings span the battlespace spectrum from down and dirty combat search and rescue through high-flying strategic air refueling to the ever-vigilant watch of the nether reaches of space for signs of enemy attack.

• **Preparing for Our Missions.** The Alaska Air National Guard is charged with maintaining combat-ready Airmen trained and ready to deploy at a moment's notice. Twelve times a year for one weekend, all members assemble to accomplish readiness training. In this short period, 24 days, we assure that the vast majority of our Airmen receive vital training in small arms qualification, chemical and biological response and survival, to name a few. In addition, they must remain proficient in their primary assigned duties. Although the ultimate test of this training is deployment, peacetime assessments in the form of major inspections keep the troops sharp.

This year, the 168th Medical Group received an Excellent rating on its Health Services Inspection; the 176th Wing received satisfactory marks on a Pacific Air Force Unit Compliance Inspection. The Unit Compliance Inspection is a document-by-document inspection of every program in an organization. All flying units were inspected by the Pacific Air Force's Standardization and Evaluation team to assess flying training and readiness. Every unit passed this rigorous inspection with flying colors.

Next to inspections, exercises play a vital role in preparedness. The Alaska Air National Guard participated in Alaska Shield/Northern Edge – a showcase exercise that brings forces from all military components together. This year, Alaska Shield/Northern Edge was the first homeland defense exercise in the nation. In addition to the usual military participants, civil disaster response agencies from the federal to the municipal level responded to simulated natural disasters and terrorist attacks. The 176th Wing was also heavily involved in the Arctic Search and Rescue Exercise, an annual multi-national event. Combat search and rescue teams from Alaska, Canada and Russia convened in Fairbanks for a week of joint rescue scenarios.

In another ground-breaking training exercise, 40 members of the 176th Medical Group spent two weeks on the sands of the Gobi Desert, Mongolia, providing basic health, dental and optometry services to thousands of Mongolian villagers.

PERFORMING OUR MISSIONS

• **At home.** Saving Alaskan lives continues to be our premier mission. This year, the Rescue Coordination Center, at Camp Denali, directed 200 rescue missions using aviation assets from the Air National Guard, Army National Guard, Civil Air Patrol and State Troopers. More than 70 lives were saved during missions that totaled over 800 flying hours. Of these missions, the Alaska Air National Guard flew 60, saving 52 lives and assisting in the rescue of nine other Alaskans.

During an especially violent winter storm, the far north village of Kaktovik lost power and water. Municipal heavy equipment froze and the runway and roads were buried in snow. Nearly 300 residents collected in the few public buildings that had limited independent power supplies. It was the intrepid aviators of the 210th, 211th and 212th Rescue Squadrons along

with the 144th Airlift Squadron combined efforts to save the entire village. They delivered generators and power line repairmen, braving white out conditions and gale force winds. After power was restored, Kaktovik cleared their runway and C-130s from the 211th Rescue Squadron and the 144th Airlift Squadron began delivering relief supplies.

Our members also contributed to life saving activities outside of Alaska. Alaskans directed tsunami relief efforts in the Far East and rescued Hurricane Katrina survivors in New Orleans and the southland. Over 20 pararescue jumpers, chaplains, public affairs officers and aircrew supported recovery from both Katrina and Rita.

• **And Abroad.** Alaska Air Guardmembers deployed from the Far East to the Middle East. Nearly 20 members from the 168th and 176th Security Forces Squadrons served for eight months to Talil, Iraq. Fifteen cargo loaders from the 176th Aerial Port Flight mobilized for a year and served both on the East Coast and in Al Udeid, Qatar. More than 50 Airmen from the 176th Civil Engineering Squadron mobilized in September for five months to support ongoing operations in Kirkuk, Iraq.

Helicopter crews from the 210th Rescue Squadron and pararescue jumpers from the 211th Rescue Squadron deployed to Afghanistan as part of a multi-state Air National Guard deployment. At the same time, another team of Alaska Air National Guard combat rescuers deployed to the Horn of Africa. Subsequently, they were redeployed to Pakistan in response to the earthquake disaster that happened in October.

Crews and maintenance teams from the 144th Airlift Squadron deployed for seven months to Yokota Air Force Base, Japan, to fly airlift missions throughout the Far East – including tsunami relief efforts. During this assignment, the 144th had the honor to conduct a mission to Vietnam to support repatriation of the remains of United States servicemen lost during the Vietnam War.

The 144th Airlift Squadron also deployed to Germany in support of Operation Joint Forge. Air Refueling crews and support teams from the 168th Air Refueling Wing deployed multiple times to Anderson Air Force Base, Guam, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The 168th also served in Norway and Germany. In total, over 400 Alaska Air Guardmembers deployed in combat or combat support missions.

• **Into the Future.** The Alaska Air National Guard has a history rich with successes realized from future vision. The 168th Air refueling Wing, the 210th, 211th, and 212th Rescue Squadrons, the 206th Combat Communications Squadron, and the 611th Air Control Squadron are units that exist today because of the vision of past leaders.

Clear Air Force Station. Our most recent mission acquisition is well on the way to becoming the Alaska Air National Guard's newest squadron. In May of 2006, the 213th Space Warning Squadron will stand up at Clear Air Force Station. This unit follows Alaska's rich tradition of space involvement. The new squadron, now in its third year of transition from the Air Force, provides ballistic missile attack warning for North America. The US Air Force's 13th Space Warning Squadron has performed the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System mission (BMEWS) since the radar became operational in 1959.

For 25 years, the radar site was operated as a remote duty location – no family members were allowed to accompany unit members on their one-year tour. In September of 2004, the Alaska Air National Guard began replacing Air Force members with Guardmembers. This mission transfer is the first of its kind in the history of the Air National Guard – no remote installation has ever been converted to a "home" duty location for the Guard.



Ready Sentinels. The Alaska Air National Guard's 168th Air Refueling Wing is at home at Eielson Air Force Base. 168th KC-135R Stratotankers have been continuously deployed since 9/11. Photo: Julie Avey, 168th Air Refueling Wing

This transition is a vital part of the Air National Guard's expansion into space missions nationwide. The unparalleled success of the soon-to-be 213 Space Warning Squadron has benchmarked new capabilities for the Guard. Today, nearly 60 members of a total 85 to be transitioned are Alaska Air National Guard members. They and their families are becoming an integral part of the growing communities of Anderson, Nennana, and Healy.

Base Relocation and Closure Commission. The Base Relocation and Closure Commission, known as BRAC, was the buzz word for Alaska Air National Guard transformation in 2005. As a result of BRAC recommendations, Kulis Air National Guard Base will close and all members and aircraft stationed there will move to Elmendorf Air Force Base. As a result, the 144th Airlift Squadron will also gain four additional C-130 aircraft and an attached Air Force squadron (associate unit) to help operate the new planes. This move brings the 176th Wing full circle: it began with one AT-6 Texan World War II surplus trainer and 16 Airmen at Elmendorf more than 50 years ago.

Eielson Operations. The 168th Air Refueling Wing continues to modernize its fleet of 40-year-old KC-135R aircraft. These venerable workhorses received brake and avionics upgrades that will carry the Stratotankers well into 21st Century.

Planning. Leadership continues to seek paths that bring the Alaska Air National Guard closer to the Total Force folds. Research into assuming part or all of the COPE Thunder exercise operations at Eielson Air Force Base, participation in the new C-17 Squadron arriving this decade at Elmendorf Air Force Base, and acquisition of the USAF replacement aircraft for the aging HH-60G Pave Hawk rescue helicopters are a few of the initiatives underway to allow our Alaska Air National Guard to remain vital for the next 50 years.

• **Mission First, Safety Always.** Safety continues to reflect in the culture of the Alaska Air National Guard. Both wings completed 2005 without any aviation mishaps or serious injuries. The 168th Air Refueling Wing marked it's 19th mishap-free year, and the 176th Wing crested over 190,000 accident-free flying hours.

Very respectfully,

Brigadier General Tim Scott

Homeland Security & Emergency Management



Alaska Shield/Northern Edge '05 Prove Effective

The Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management achieved tremendous success in 2005. The year began with a Southeast Asia tsunami disaster. It was followed by a life threatening emergency in Kaktovik. The Division's pace accelerated with another storm along the Bristol Bay area and coastal storms in Western Alaska. DHS&EM netted a significant advance in protecting Alaska from terrorism. Alaska received \$14,879,381 in Federal Homeland Security grants with the Division allocating more than 80 percent to local jurisdictions for purchasing equipment, holding training classes, and creating or updating emergency plans. As 2005 closed, DHS&EM teams responded to a score of severe storms that did extreme damage to communities in Southeast Alaska.

• **Kaktovik Winter Storm Disaster.** DHS&EM Response and Recovery staff supported the North Slope Borough in response to a life-threatening winter storm that hit the City of Kaktovik last winter, leaving the community without power, heat and water. DHS&EM helped coordinate National Guard efforts to bring technicians, heat sources, and other vital supplies to the community and assisted the North Slope Borough Emergency Operations Center in developing evacuation plans. The event was declared both a State and federal disaster. DHS&EM is currently administering the Public Assistance and Individual Assistance recovery programs for this disaster.

• **Bristol Bay Sea Storm.** DHS&EM Response and Recovery staff responded to an August strong sea storm that brought high winds and high tides which produced storm surges of 2 to 3 feet above the high tide levels and caused widespread

coastal flooding in the upper Bristol Bay area. Public infrastructure, commercial property, and personal property damages were reported in the City of Clark's Point and the City of Togiak. The event was declared a State disaster for these communities and DHS&EM is currently managing both Public Assistance and Individual Assistance recovery programs for this disaster.

• **2005 West Coast Fall Sea Storm Disaster.** DHS&EM Response and Recovery teams assisted Western Alaska communities with life-safety and damage assessments after a large fall sea storm caused severe damage to coastal communities in September 2005. This is the second consecutive year these western communities have been hit with a large fall sea storm. While DHS&EM continued to work with FEMA on community recovery projects from the previous year's storm, joint Federal-State inspection teams were quickly organized and completed damage assessments for the September 2005 storm. The September event was declared a State disaster and Governor Murkowski's request for federal assistance for recovery efforts was approved in early December. DHS&EM is currently working with FEMA on administering the Public Assistance program for the affected areas and is managing the Individual Assistance program.

• **2005 Southeast Alaska Storm Disaster.** DHS&EM Response and Recovery teams assisted the Southeast Alaskan communities of Juneau, Haines, Sitka, Skagway, Hoonah and Pelican after a powerful fall storm system stalled over the area in November causing flooding, high wind damage and land slides. Public infrastructure, commercial property and personal property



Overwhelming Challenge, Overwhelming Training. Alaska Shield/Northern Edge '05 brought military and civilian emergency response teams together to face incredible situations that resulted in improved response times, practical relationships and useful exchanges. Anchorage, Airport and Air National Guard fire response teams took part in one scenario near Stevens International Airport that involved a mass casualty situation. Dozens of volunteers offered to "dress-up Hollywood style" to play crash victims. The results: valuable training. Photos: Technical Sergeant Roger Dey, Montana Air National Guard

were damaged during the storm. The event was declared a State disaster for these communities in late December. DHS&EM is currently working with the affected communities, gathering needed disaster damage information. Governor Murkowski may seek federal disaster assistance to help the communities recover from the storm.

- **Continuity Of Operations Planning (COOP) and Continuity of Government (COG).** DHS&EM facilitated COOP workshops for the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) and other State departments. Technical advisors from the Office of Domestic Preparedness contractor assisted in developing initial essential functions for each of DMVA's divisions. These essential functions were used as examples for other State departments during two statewide COOP development workshops in March and May 2005. Additionally, DHS&EM drafted an initial COG plan with the Governor's Office and other State agencies. This draft plan lays out the steps that would be taken to ensure the chain of command for the State of Alaska.

- **Security and Vulnerability Assessments (SVA).** The DHS&EM SVA team used a tailored software-based assessment tool to evaluate 16 critical infrastructure sites in the State of Alaska. Some examples of sites assessed include Alaska Regional Hospital, Alaska Aerospace Development's Kodiak Launch Complex on Kodiak Island, State of Alaska's Telecommunications Complex and Alaska Railroad Corporation. The SVA team also completed and submitted Alaska's Fiscal Year 2005 Buffer Zone Protection Plans of Critical Infrastructure to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for security and site hardening grant funds. Additionally, the SVA team made Terrorism/Security Awareness presentations to the administrative employees of the Anchorage School District and conducted assessments at two local schools. As part of this assessment, the team traveled to Juneau to brief the Alaska Department of Education on the School Assessment Program for potential adoption statewide.

- **Alaska Shield/Northern Edge.** DHS&EM co-sponsored Alaska Shield/Northern Edge 2005 exercise was an opportunity to practice an integrated response to a wide variety of simulated emergencies at statewide venues. More than 20 communities from Barrow to Anchorage and from Unalaska to Ketchikan tested the integration of at least 28 local, State, federal and private agencies. It exercised the movement of people and equipment not only within Alaska, but from many locations in the Lower 48 and Hawaii. Alaska Shield/Northern Edge 2005 events provided a wide range of simulated natural disasters and terrorist events in our communities; such as earthquakes, and biological and chemical attacks. The exercises included terrorist events in the air and at sea, providing exceptional training for civilian and

military "first responders;" and tested organizational and integration skills of Alaskan leadership at all levels.

- **Tsunami Awareness Programs.** DHS&EM conducted Tsunami Sign Program and TsunamiReady Community Certification Program activities in the Southeast Alaska communities of Craig, Klawock, Thorne Bay and Hydaburg. This was a collaborative outreach effort with the West Coast and Alaska Tsunami Warning Centers, University of Alaska Fairbanks, American Red Cross, and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association's (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS) to conduct open forums to encourage the communities to participate in the State and National tsunami programs.

- **Live Tsunami Warning Test.** DHS&EM was the lead State agency in a live test of the Tsunami Warning System (the State hosts monthly tests of the Emergency Alert System). This was the first time the tsunami warning portion was broadcast using the real codes. The test message was broadcast across Alaska via NOAA Weather Radio, Emergency Alert System messaging on tv and radio, and other State and local communication links.

- **NEMA Presidency.** Director David E. Liebersbach finished his term as President of the National Emergency Management Association at its annual conference in Anchorage this past August. Representatives from the 56 states and territories took part in the conference discussing emergency response and recovery issues that are shared with Congress, U.S. Department of Homeland Security and President Bush. As President of NEMA, Liebersbach was on the forefront of issues affecting the Alaska and the nation. The benefits of his presidency included an increase in emergency management funding, having a strong voice for Alaska in the reorganization of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and legislation that exempted Hazard Mitigation monies from taxation. ■



Stephen King-like Conditions. The storm of the century hit Kaktovik in early January, closing down the entire village from outside contact. It took Guard Forces more than a week and several attempts through a daunting blizzard to reach the people.

Photo: Major Mike Haller, JFHQ-AK

“... Through Partnerships, Leading the Way in Emergency Management”

The mission of the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management is to protect lives and property from terrorism and all other hazards and provide rapid recovery from all disaster events.

The division's six strategic goals are set forth to deter terrorism and lead the way in emergency management. They include reducing the vulnerability to loss of life, injury and property damages resulting from disasters; providing efficient and timely homeland security and disaster management to Alaskans; developing and implementing statewide homeland security and emergency management training, exercise and

outreach programs; developing and prioritizing a State of Alaska Critical Infrastructure list; enhancing and expanding terrorist information and intelligence dissemination; and increasing community and local jurisdiction public outreach.

The division is committed to developing and implementing an integrated system that provides effective emergency management by proactively adapting to the changing world to better prepare for, respond to and recover from any type of disastrous event. This includes efforts to prevent terrorist attacks, reduce Alaska's terrorism vulnerability and minimize the loss of life or damage to critical infrastructure. ■



Veterans

Territorial Guard Recognition Leads Support to Vets

2005 marked the 30th Anniversary of the end of the Vietnam War, as well as the 60th Anniversary of the end of World War II. It is fitting and appropriate that we promote the vital role Alaska and Alaskans have played in times of war and conflict to faithfully and honorably support freedom and democracy for others. Ceremonies during Memorial Day and Veterans Day across the State joined Alaska's distinguished veterans and all of our residents in paying homage to the memory of those who fought to preserve our cherished way of life.

Governor Frank H. Murkowski and Major General Craig E. Campbell took time to recognize more than 700 World War II Aleutian Campaign veterans across the country with a letter of appreciation and certificate of recognition. The "thank you" packages arrived the week of May 11, the day U.S. forces landed on Attu to liberate the island from Japanese invaders.

Alaska Territorial Guard members continue to receive official Federal Certificates of Discharge from the U.S. Army for their service during World War II. The applications of 44 men and one woman were approved in 2005 to bring the total to 68. An estimated 6,500 men and women served in the ATG.

Applications for funds from the Alaska Veterans' Memorial Endowment Fund were received and resulted in improvements to the Veterans' Wall of Honor in Wasilla and the 11th Air Force/Americans Home from Siberia Memorial located on Merrill Field

in Anchorage. In July, the Commissioner of the Department of Revenue announced \$11,630 may be appropriated by the Memorial Endowment Fund.

On August 29, Governor Murkowski, Major General Campbell and many others joined in the ground breaking to start the construction and renovation for the Palmer Veterans and Pioneer Home. The project was over 30 years in the making, but will be completed next summer and open for Alaska's veterans.

Ed Knoebel of Glennallen was named as the Governor's Veterans Advocacy Award recipient for 2005 during the Veterans Day ceremony at the Alaska National Guard Armory on Fort Richardson. Knoebel joined the Navy during World War II, earning a Purple Heart while serving on the U.S.S. Hornet. He has been helping veterans and their families for years in the Copper River area and is active in the American Legion.

Service officers from the American Legion, Disabled American Veterans and Veterans of Foreign Wars continue to provide outstanding service to Alaska's veterans and their families. Disabled American Veterans opened a new office in Wasilla.

Veterans, old and young alike, continue to make Alaska home and help our State be a better place to work, live and raise a family. As one deployed Soldier while stationed in Iraq recently put it, "Thank you for the privilege to serve." ■

It is fitting and appropriate that we promote the vital role Alaska and Alaskans have played in times of war and conflict to faithfully and honorably support freedom and democracy for others.



The Missing Man Formation – A Final Salute For Governor Jay Hammond. Former Governor Jay Hammond was honored by members of the Alaska Air National Guard's 144th Airlift Squadron in a fly-by over the Anchorage Veterans Memorial. Hammond, a former World War II Marine Corps fighter pilot, was well known for his prowess as a Bush pilot. The Guardmembers, who own their own aircraft, felt this was the best and highest honor they could offer to their former Commander In Chief. Photo: Mark Farmer, topcover.com

Space & Missile Defense



Kodiak Launch Facility at the Ready. **Missile defense testing remains one of the key activities.** Photo: Courtesy of Kodiak Launch Facility

The Spear Gets Sharpened

The Alaska Army National Guard continued to successfully control, operate, secure and defend America's first ground based, mid-course, ballistic missile defense system at Fort Greely. This Federal multi-million dollar investment is an operational test facility with multiple intercept missiles. More than 150 full-time Guardmembers operate and secure the systems. Alaska's National Guard Soldiers are at the "tip of the spear" in defending America.

Ground-based Interceptor Missiles continue to be placed into their silos at the Missile Defense Complex. Interceptors are designed to destroy incoming intercontinental ballistic missiles before they reach North American airspace. Soldiers from the Alaska Army National Guard, along with contract support teams, operate the missile defense system 24/7 on behalf of the United States.

The manning, training and development of the missile defense team has matured to a readiness level equal to the challenges that America faces.

The Fort Greely installation is a lively, developing center of operations – continuing its emergence from post-BRAC mothballing. ■

Alaska State Defense Force

A Year of Superlatives and Service

Story by Warrant Officer One Amanda Isakson, ASDF



Veteran Response. Captain John Engles, Lieutenant Nick Stuparich and Lieutenant Colonel Martin Farris stood on alert in front of the Valdez Civic Center to direct participants and maintain order during a recent public health drill. The Soldiers are part of the local detachment of the 492nd Coastal Command, 49th Military Police Brigade, Alaska State Defense Force of the Alaska Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. Photo: Courtesy of Valdez Star



Volunteer Victims Vaccinated. Nurse Cynthia Ebb of Providence Valdez Medical Center was one of the many folks administering flu shots during the public health drill. "It didn't hurt!" her patient remarked after the inoculation. Photo: Courtesy of Valdez Star

The Alaska State Defense Force (ASDF) is a significant force provider to both State and federal homeland security authorities. More than 300 Alaskans, located statewide, serve as military policemen.

The ASDF is organized through several components, including: the 49th Military Police Brigade, with four battalions and a Military Police Academy; the 491st Aviation Regiment; and the 492nd Coastal Command. The Brigade is headquartered at Camp Denali on Fort Richardson. Subordinate headquarters are located in Fairbanks, Juneau and Anchorage.

Mobilizations & Operations

Operation Alaska Shield/Northern Edge 2005: In August, the Brigade deployed nearly 100 Military Police in defense of critical infrastructures located in Anchorage and Whittier.

2005 DMVA ANNUAL REPORT

Port of Valdez: In November, the 492nd Coastal Command provided Military Police Security for the off-loading of U.S. Army materials and equipment.

Port of Anchorage: In October, the 492nd Coastal Command established a training program for explosives detection and general defense of the port area.

Ports of Seward & Whittier: The 492nd Coastal Command's 27-foot Police Patrol Boat continued operations for the seaside security while visiting four ships were located at the Port of Seward.

Alaska Railroad: The 3rd Battalion (Fairbanks) and 4th Battalion (Anchorage) continued patrols in direct support of organic railroad security efforts.

Emergency Satellite

Communications: The 2nd Emergency Satellite Communications Battalion is based at Camp Denali.

49th Military Police Academy: The Academy graduated 30 new Constables. They are trained as military police with special emphasis in working with civil law enforcement officer techniques, security for critical infrastructure, inspection and protection techniques for explosives.

491st Aviation Regiment: The 491st Aviation Regiment continues their direct support of the Brigade. They provide aerial reconnaissance, transportation and liaison, while conducting ongoing Homeland Security Operations. ■

Alaska Military Youth Academy

Alaska's Only State-Run Military School

ChalleNGe

The Alaska Military Youth Academy's tuition-free ChalleNGe program is designed to provide at-risk 16-year-old through 18-year-old Alaskan youth a chance to complete a high school education, gain healthy life skills and develop leadership and teamwork skills that will lead them to life-long success.

Alaska's ChalleNGe program is based on historically tried and proven American military based training methods and structure. The military structure and discipline allow residential cadets to focus on goals and to fully participate and perform during the mentally and physically demanding 22-week course.

Located on Fort Richardson within the Camp Carroll training site, the Youth Academy's main campus provides living facilities, food service, technical training, academic classes, medical services and administrative support 24 hours a day, seven days a week for its ChalleNGe students.

To provide Alaskan youth and families easier access to academy information and faster service, the school has opened two satellite offices – one in the Dimond Center in south Anchorage and another in the Army National Guard armory in Fairbanks. Since opening the Fairbanks admissions office, the number of applicants from Interior Alaska doubled in 2005.

The number of students enrolling in ChalleNGe classes reached an historic high. More than 180 young men and women enrolled in the fall 2005 ChalleNGe class, an increase of more than 21 percent from the 2005 spring class. To accommodate the increasing interest in ChalleNGe, the academy added a fourth cadet platoon, which has proven extremely successful.

As of the end of 2005, the academy has graduated nearly 2,000 ChalleNGe cadets. According to national program monitors, more than 95 percent of those graduates are leading productive, successful lives more than a year after completing the ChalleNGe course.

The Alaska Military Youth Academy is accredited by the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools. The academy is also an Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development licensed testing site.

STARBASE

The AMYA's STARBASE program is designed for students in the fourth through seventh grade. The curriculum is designed to meet Alaska's legislatively mandated Benchmarks. Students increase their learning potential through school-based activities that reinforce and build upon the material learned at STARBASE.

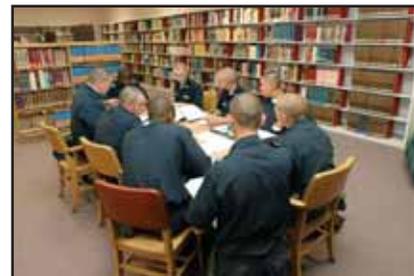
These activities are in the form of pre- and post-visit lessons. A second STARBASE classroom has been added and will open January 2006. STARBASE was able to create this classroom with no additional funding. This will allow STARBASE to serve additional Anchorage and Mat-Su area students.

STARBASE held two open houses thus far to expand public knowledge of the program and for resource outreach. STARBASE is currently in the process of developing partnerships with the Drug Reduction unit, AKNG Family Programs and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. STARBASE would also like to expand the participants and audience to include: special education students from Northstar Hospital, the Alaska Native population of various remote villages, as well as offer workshops for local science teachers. STARBASE offered two additional camps during the holiday season: DMVA Employees and Families of Deployed Soldiers.

STARBASE taught more than 950 Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna Borough area students in 2005. Instructors traveled to Louisiana and Michigan to obtain and share ideas with other STARBASE programs. The second classroom allowed STARBASE to double their capacity. Both class slots for the entire 2005/2006 academic year were filled within three weeks of the start of classes. Demand is very high, and there is a waiting list for cancellations. ■



A Change of Face and Future. Students at the Military Youth Academy display self-portrait plaster masks. The mask-making workshops are part of the academy's self-understanding and personal development programs. Photo: Danny Daniels, Alaska Military Youth Academy



Roundtable ChalleNGe. Military Youth Academy ChalleNGe cadets study in the school library. Photo: Danny Daniels, Alaska Military Youth Academy

A Hub of Activity, A Home for Over 50 Years



Back to the Future. Kulis Air National Guard base is on the docket for closure within the next five years. The Base Relocation and Closure Commission recommended the retention of the 176th Wing and its dynamic missions with a new address that is really its original address: Elmendorf Air Force Base. Officials estimate the price tag for the move to exceed \$186 million. Photo: Mark Farmer, topcover.com

103rd Civil Support Team

Alaskans Help in Aftermath of Hurricane Katrina

Since its inception in June 2000, the 103rd Civil Support Team (CST), Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) has rapidly deployed several times in support of local responders and local military installations, including Fort Greely and other areas of Alaska involving potential weapons of mass destruction and hazardous materials. Following Hurricane Katrina, the 103rd CST members deployed to work closely with the New Orleans Fire Department, the State of Louisiana, and the Environmental Protection Agency to rapidly identify and respond to chemical hazards displaced by Hurricane Katrina. In all of these responses, the 103rd CST brings cutting edge communications, medical support, analytical equipment and National Incident Management System (NIMS) support to an incident or disaster.

Training and readiness constitute a major portion of the 103rd CST's activities. Team members are certified HAZMAT Technicians and receive certified Emergency Medical Technician level training. The 103rd CST has been instrumental in WMD training throughout Alaska. Since 2001, the unit has assisted the development of HAZMAT response teams in Valdez, Kodiak and Ketchikan, bringing additional emergency response protection to 40,000 Alaskans. The 103rd CST also works with Alaska's State Hazmat Working Group and the Joint Medical Emergency

Planning Group. The 103rd CST continuously facilitates training courses and events for Alaska's responders as well as Federal and DOD organizations.

In its mission, 103rd CST rapidly deploys to identify a suspected Chemical, Biological, Radiological or Nuclear (CBRN) agent while working for a civilian Incident Commander. It advises civilian responders regarding appropriate actions in planning for and responding to WMD incidents. The 103rd CST also facilitates the arrival of additional state and federal assets to help save lives and property.

The 103rd CST is made up of 22 personnel with a wide range of specialties. The unit has five sections: Command, Operations, Survey, Decontamination/Logistics and Medical/Analytical Section. Each section has a specific mission which supports the overall CST. All sections reside in the units readiness buildings on Bryant Army Airfield at Fort Richardson. Major Christian Van Alstine is the Commander. Master Sergeant Andrew Bodnar is the First Sergeant. The entire unit is on call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for CBRN response to aid Alaska's responders with leading technologies in communications, CBRN detection and field analytical laboratory equipment. ■



Splash, Splash. Members of the Alaska National Guard's 103rd Civil Support Team helped identify and clear out hazardous materials in the aftermath of hurricanes Katrina and Rita in the New Orleans area. Unit members served with other Soldiers and Airmen from neighboring states to assist with the "ultimate cleanup" from one of the most devastating events in American history. Photo: Courtesy 103rd CST

Alaska Naval Militia

Standing Ready to Serve

This group of Navy and Marine Corps Reservists step forward to assist the National Guard in times of emergency or disaster. The training, skills and experience of these individuals is available to the Governor and Adjutant General should the need arise to come to the aid of the citizens of Alaska. All members of this small but well skilled organization have made an additional commitment to their home state, beyond their Navy or Marine Corps Reserve status, to put on their uniform and serve with National Guard members if called to State active duty. Many members have been called to Iraq, Afghanistan and other locations on active duty with the Navy or Marine Corps over the past year. Naval Militia members proudly wear "two hats" with the rank or rate of the U.S. Navy or Marine Corps and the Alaska Naval Militia. We stand ready to serve! ■

*All members of this small
but well skilled organization
have made an additional commitment
to their home state.*



Awards & Recognitions

Legion of Merit



CSM Harold Tolan1st Bn
 MSG Patrick MeeganRTI
 CW4 James Hill207th Avn
 1SG James Dittlinger207th Avn
 CW5 Charles HamiltonJFHQ-AK (Army)
 COL Dennis Kline207th Grp
 SGM Daniel BrummerJFHQ-AK (Army)

Airman's Medal



MSgt David Shuman212th RQS

Bronze Star



TSgt Robert Dowler168th LRS

AK Legion of Merit



LTC Jeffrey BadgerJFHQ-AK (Army)
 LTC Tim Koeneman3/297th Inf (Scout)
 COL Dennis Kline207th Grp
 CW5 Charles Hamilton IIIJFHQ
 1SG James Dittlinger207th Avn
 COL Jose TorresALCOM
 MSG Daniel Kurka207th Avn
 SFC Charles Miller103rd CST
 CW4 Bruce Perry207th Avn

AK Cold War Victory Ribbon



CSM Kerry AverettRTI
 LTC Debra BlaylockRTI
 1SG Robert FranciscoRTI
 SFC Anibal JorgeRTI
 SFC Todd PatnodeRTI
 SFC Michael PhillipsRTI
 SFC Roma Scougal2nd Bn
 COL Antonio ShumateRTI



Recognizing Best Efforts. Major General Craig E. Campbell, the Adjutant General, presented awards and decorations to members of the Alaska Army National Guard's 3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry, during his visit to Iraq. More than 130 Soldiers from Southeast and Southcentral Alaska are assigned in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Photo: Courtesy of Alaska Army National Guard

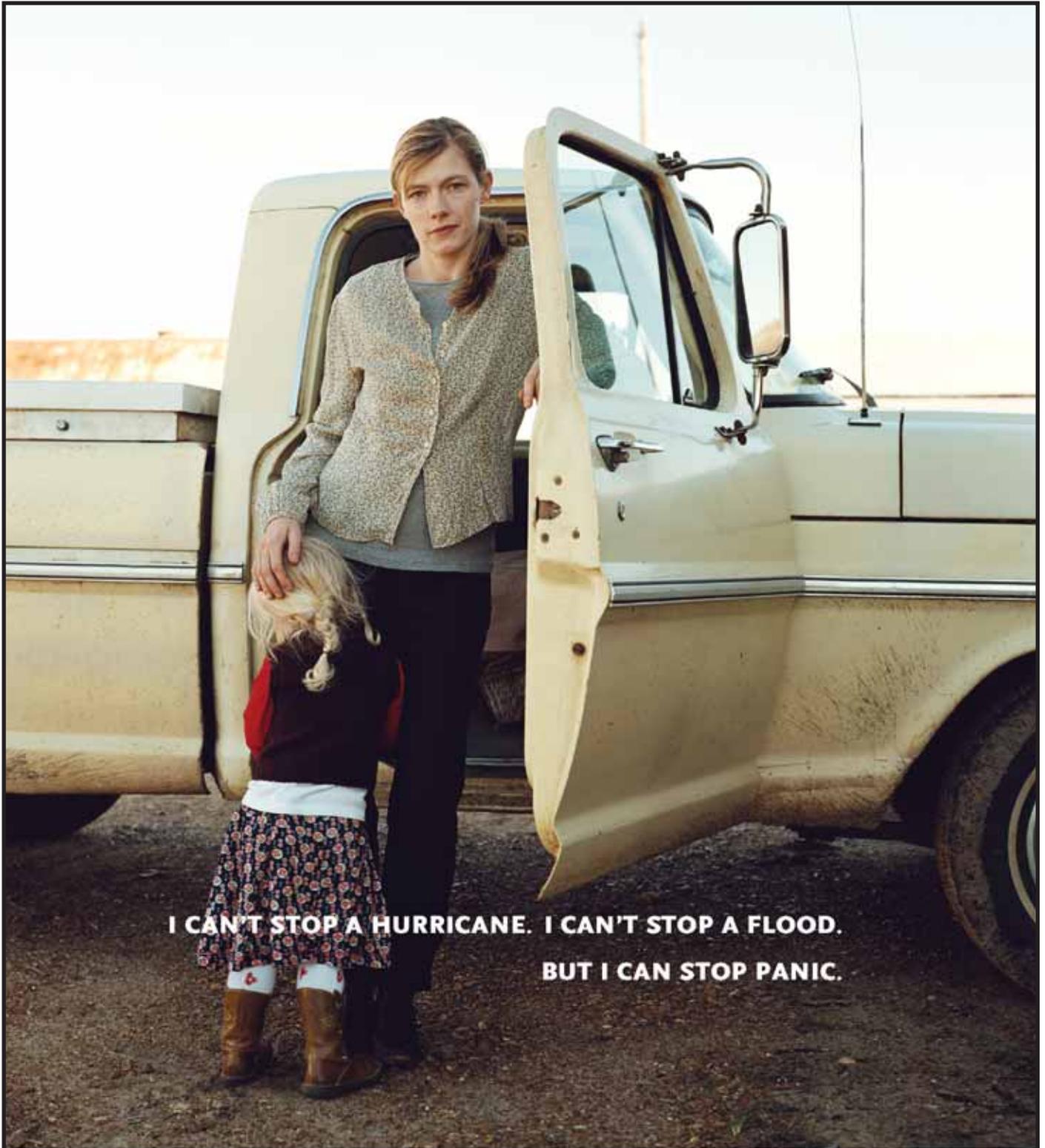
Deputy Commissioner Roger Schnell Appointed to New Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission

ANCHORAGE, Alaska... The toll of death and destruction from Alaska's next big earthquake could be reduced with advance planning, if a new State advisory commission on seismic hazards succeeds in its mission to heighten public awareness, improve risk assessment and encourage earthquake-resistant construction.

The Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission held its first meeting October 28, to begin further preparing Alaskans for future earthquakes.

Governor Frank H. Murkowski appointed the nine members of the commission including John Aho, an Anchorage consulting engineer and chairman of the commission; Roger Schnell of the Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs; Rod Combellick, an engineering geologist with the Alaska Department of Natural Resources; Roger Hansen, seismologist with the University of Alaska Fairbanks; consulting geologist Gary Carver; Linda Freed of the City of Kodiak; Laura Kelly of the U.S. Coast Guard; Dennis Nottingham of Peratrovich, Nottingham & Drage; and Michael Wilkinson of State Farm Insurance.

The team is charged with advising decision makers at all levels of government and the private sector about ways to reduce earthquake risks, and disseminate information on earthquake risk mitigation to the public. ■



I CAN'T STOP A HURRICANE. I CAN'T STOP A FLOOD.
BUT I CAN STOP PANIC.

WHEN YOU HELP THE AMERICAN RED CROSS, YOU HELP AMERICA.



**American
Red Cross**

WE ALL HAVE TO BE READY TO HELP EACH OTHER. AND WHEN YOU HAVE AN
EMERGENCY PLAN AND A DISASTER SUPPLIES KIT, EVERYONE FEELS SAFER.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL CHAPTER OR VISIT [REDCROSS.ORG](https://www.redcross.org)



=



www.uso.org