



For Immediate Release

5 April 2009

## **Alaska Army National Guard Stands Ready**

*Guard members of the 49<sup>th</sup> Missile Defense Battalion are prepared to defend US territory, our allies and our national interests*

**CAMP DENALI, Alaska**—Governor Sarah Palin stated today “the members of the Alaska Army National Guard’s 49<sup>th</sup> Missile Defense Battalion, in conjunction with the 100<sup>th</sup> Missile Defense Brigade of the Colorado Army National Guard demonstrated the nation’s readiness to respond to the long standing and well documented missile activities in North Korea.”

Governor Palin continued “we as a nation must be prepared to squarely engage any threat to our safety and security. The threat is real and proliferating as threat nations band together and share their discoveries and technological developments. It is vital for the United States to be able to defend itself from every identified threat, especially one as devastating as an intercontinental ballistic missile attack. Failure to adequately defend in this arena would result in dramatic consequences to this nation.”

Yesterday’s missile launch by DPRK clearly demonstrates the strong need for the U.S. to continue development and employment of a defensive system to counter this ever increasing threat. Governor Palin stated further “I can’t emphasize enough how important it is that we continue to develop and perfect the global missile defense network. Alaska’s strategic location and the system in place here have proven invaluable in defending the nation.”

The last missile launch of a TD-2 type by North Korea took place on July 4, 2006 and although that launch failed, these launches clearly represent the efforts that threat nations are making to develop their own missile technology.

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