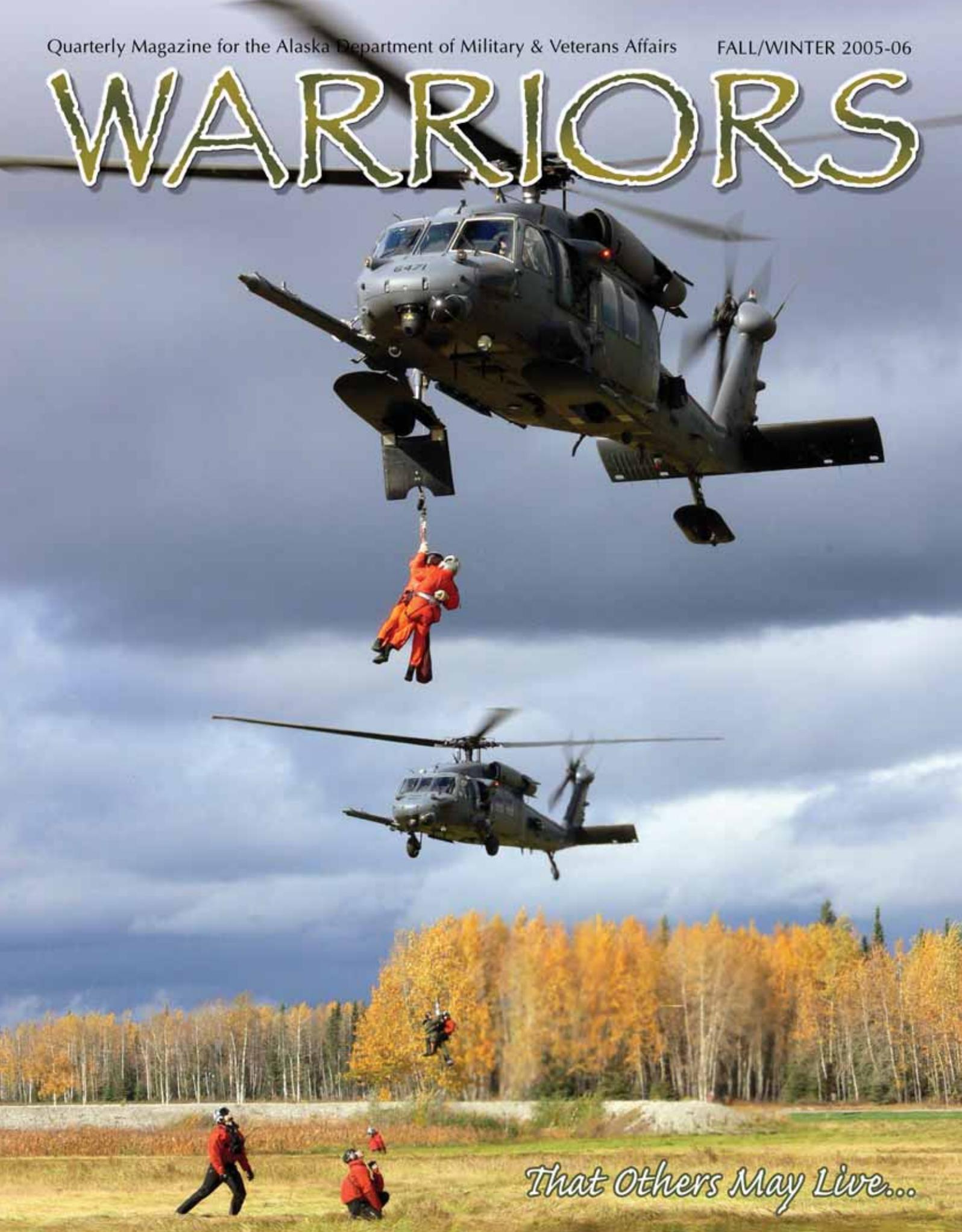


Quarterly Magazine for the Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs

FALL/WINTER 2005-06

WARRIORS



That Others May Live...



**When you need to move
freight that's really...**

Big!



“Lynden offers dependable transportation, even in the harsh Alaskan climate. Our fleet includes, flatbeds, vans, stretch, lowboy, single- and double-drop trailers. We serve the oilfield, mining and construction industries throughout North America.”

www.shiplynden.com

1-888-596-3361

The Lynden Family of Companies



Innovative Transportation Solutions



Governor Frank H. Murkowski
Commander in Chief



Major General Craig E. Campbell
The Adjutant General, Alaska National Guard
& Commissioner of the DMVA

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

Ms. Kalei Brooks
DMVA Public Information Officer

Ms. Christine Nangle
Mr. Ken Fankhauser
JFHQ-AK Public Affairs Specialist

Mr. James Littrell
DHS&EM Public Information Officer

Captain Kelly Mellard
Second Lieutenant Bethany Ordway
168th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Officers

Contributors, Writers & Photojournalists

Sergeant Eric Hamilton
Education Office, JFHQ-AK

Samantha L. Quigley
American Forces Press Service

Mark Farmer
topcover.com

Alaska Military Youth Academy

Technical Sergeant Bruce Gazaway
176th Civil Engineer Squadron, AKANG

Technical Sergeant Brian Schlumborg
168th Air Refueling Wing

Colonel Justine Emerson
Alaska Army National Guard State Surgeon

Specialist Ryan Haller
Alaska Army National Guard

Lieutenant Joseph Conroy
212th Rescue Squadron

Sergeant First Class Jack Murphy
Nebraska National Guard

Specialist Mary Rose
U.S. Army

Sergeant Benjamin T. Donde
U.S. Army

Master Sergeant Tim Hoffman
Alaskan Command

Staff Sergeant Joshua Strang
U.S. Air Force

Private First Class Carina Garcia
345th Mobile Public Affairs

Members of—

117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment
168th Air Refueling Wing – Public Affairs Team
176th Wing – Public Affairs Team



America's Quality Publisher

8537 Corbin Dr., Anchorage, AK 99507
(907) 562-9300 • (866) 562-9300

WARRIORS

Quarterly Magazine for the Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs

Features:

North Wind 2005 Aligns Alaskan and Japanese Troops 12

Departments:

Dispatch from the Front 3	Family Support 14
Where in the World 4	Who We Are 15
My Turn 6	Environmental 15
Veterans 6	Legacy 16
Joint Forces 8	Retirements 17
Homeland Security 9	Awards & Decorations 18
ESGR 10	Start of the Trail 20
Education 13	Training Schedule 20



Photo: Mark Farmer, topcover.com

An Autumn Day in Alaska. American, Canadian and Russian para-rescuemen are hoisted into two Alaska Air National Guard HH-60G Pave Hawks from the 210th Rescue Squadron during Arctic SAREX 2005 held in September at Eielson Air Force Base near Fairbanks, Alaska.



A Visit with Alaska Military Youth Academy Cadets. Lieutenant Governor Loren Leman in November toured the Job Skills Training and Certification programs, taught by the Cadet Services section of the Alaska Challenge program. Leman, a frequent visitor at the Academy, spoke with the cadets about Alaska and their future plans for training and education. He commended them on their outstanding choice to voluntarily attend the Alaska Military Youth Academy.

Photo: Courtesy of Alaska Military Youth Academy

Warriors is a commercial enterprise publication, produced in partnership, quarterly, by the State of Alaska, Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, PO Box 5800, Camp Denali, Ft. Richardson, Alaska 99505-5800, phone (907) 428-6031, fax 428-6035; and AQP Publishing Inc., 8537 Corbin Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99507. Views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the Departments of the Army and Air Force, or the State of Alaska. All photos are Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs photos unless otherwise credited. Circulation: 5,000.

Distribution: **Warriors** is published for all current civilian employees, military members, veterans, and their families, of the Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs. It is distributed, free of charge, via mail and distribution, through each Division within the Department. It is also available at our Web site: www.ak-prepared.com/dmva.

HOW TO REACH US

Letters: Letters to the editor must be signed and include the writer's full name and mailing address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. **Submissions:** Print and visual submissions of general interest to our diverse civilian employees, Alaska National Guard military members,

veterans and families are invited and encouraged. Please send articles and photos with name, phone number, e-mail, complete mailing address and comments to:

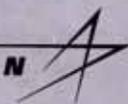
Warriors Magazine
Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs
Office of Public Affairs
PO Box 5800, Camp Denali
Ft Richardson, AK 99505-5800
(907) 428-6031 / Fax 428-6035

**THE RESULT OF ADDING BRAINS
TO BRUTE STRENGTH.**



With its instantly recognizable silhouette, the C-130J may look the same. But beneath its skin is a totally new, advanced, fully integrated digital weapons system. It starts with advanced avionics technology designed to increase safety and reduce crew workload. The new J has LCD instrument readouts for aircraft flight control, operating systems, and navigation. Night vision displays that let its crew fly in and out of areas of total darkness wherever and whenever the mission dictates. And, as the new standard in tactical air support, it goes higher, farther, and faster than the C-130 it is replacing. C-130J. Advanced. Proven. Ready.

LOCKHEED MARTIN
We never forget who we're working for™





Dispatch from the Front...

The Last Plane Home

Story by Technical Sergeant John B. Gazaway
176th Civil Engineer Squadron, Alaska Air National Guard



At a Forward Operating Base in Iraq – It was still dark on the runway when we gathered. I was just one more in a milling mass of uniforms. It probably would not be appropriate to say how many are stationed here, but we comprise a small city – about the size of Bethel, Alaska – and most of us were standing on an asphalt runway in the hours just before sunrise.

One thing the military does well is to organize milling masses. Before long, the first sergeants and officers were calling out and we slowly shook ourselves into organized groupings, with long ranks of Soldiers facing long ranks of Airmen across a short stretch of pavement leading to the open bay of the C-130 Hercules.

I won't say this was a solemn group, but there was none of the usual griping heard from a large group of Soldiers being herded into a ceremonial formation.

We waited at Parade Rest for a considerable period of time. Then echoing down the ranks, the words repeated by each level of leadership, came the command "Attention." Shortly after came the command, "Present Arms," as the official party came past.

From my place many ranks back in my squadron formation, I could only see the heads of the official escort between the bent and unwavering arms of the men and women before me. Were I a good Soldier I would have, as is proper, only looked at the neck of the woman before me. Well, the truth is that I am a willing but somewhat unremarkable Airman and so I slyly peaked. This was an event I wished to witness, and I meant no disrespect in doing so.

Twelve men, all Army, accompanied the coffin. I couldn't see through the ranks of heads and arms. I could only watch the helmet covered heads of the pallbearers bearing their burden. I could see that they were young and terribly serious.

Words were said, the coffin was carefully loaded aboard the airplane and the ramp closed. We were dismissed.

To this day, I do not know who it was that died. I suspect he or she was in the Army. They tend to do most of the dying in this region. Now clearly, this young person was known to the command and to family and friends, but for those of us drawn up in the early morning dark, this was our own unknown Soldier.

As American citizens, we expect to have access to all the facts all the time; but as American military members, the rules, and our own expectations, are somewhat different. There are situations where a multitude of detailed facts only obscure the central issue. I'm comfortable with not knowing the details because the ultimate truth is clear. A young American died serving his or her country in a foreign land far from home.

Another truth was that I was proud to be there in the desert darkness with my fellow Soldiers and Airmen paying our last respects to a fallen comrade-in-arms.

Sometime later, my squad mate and I were driving across the base and saw the C-130 slowly, like a pregnant guppy, climb into the early morning sky. Behind it, the bright yellow ball of the desert sun was just crawling above the horizon. I could only hope this Soldier had a smooth flight home. ■

Technical Sergeant Bruce Gazaway is a life-long Alaskan. He serves as a member of the 176th Civil Engineer Squadron, from Kulis Air National Guard Base, in Anchorage, Alaska. He is currently deployed with his unit to Iraq. He is employed with the Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management as an Emergency Management Specialist in his normal civilian life.

**We need
THEM.
They need
US.
We need
YOU.**



Until Every One Comes Home.®

www.uso.org

Where in the World

News briefs by Kalei Brooks and Christine Nangle, DMVA Public Affairs

Army Guard Aviators Final "Fly-By" Salute

BRYANT ARMY GUARD HELIPORT. . . Early morning Anchorage skies were filled with the sounds and unmistakable profiles of 10 Alaska Army National Guard UH-60L Black Hawk helicopters as they made an aerial journey from their home on Fort Richardson to Elmendorf Air Force Base.

About 100 members of the Alaska Army National Guard's Bravo Company, 1/207th Aviation Battalion, are now in Iraq for a one-year deployment.

The unit worked hard to make the significant mission and training transition from utility lift organization to air assault unit. The company is made up of Soldiers from Juneau, Bethel, Nome, Anchorage and Fairbanks.

"Bravo Company joined the more than 200 other Alaska National Guard Soldiers and Airmen who are assigned in various locations across the country," said Major Mike Haller, chief of public affairs for the Alaska National Guard.

"The wealth of experience and capabilities in Bravo Company are a tribute to the determination and personal dedication of each crewmember and maintainer," Haller said. ■

176th Civil Engineers Help in Iraq

KULIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE. . . Just one week after the Army National Guard sent some of its aviators to Iraq, the Air National Guard deployed about 55 Airmen from the 176th Civil Engineer Squadron.

Deploying members are now working

at an air base in Iraq supporting firefighting efforts and construction activities.

"The 176th Civil Engineer Squadron possesses a diverse range of skills," said Major General Craig Campbell, Adjutant General of the Alaska National Guard and commissioner of the Department of Military & Veterans Affairs. "They have the skills needed to build and design construction infrastructure such as roads and buildings, as well as the skills needed to protect that infrastructure and the people in Iraq from fire hazards." They will be in Iraq for about four months. ■

On Guard. Specialist Peter Nanalook, Bravo Company, 1/297th Infantry, Alaska Army National Guard, stood guard at Flint Hills Refinery near Fairbanks, during a simulated terrorist attack during Alaska Shield/Northern Edge 2005 exercises. Soldiers had road checkpoints in place and security patrols stationed in various locations as part of their mission to maintain high-level security and force protection in the area. Alaska Shield/Northern Edge events provided a wide range of simulated natural disasters and terrorist events in Alaskan communities to train and challenge civilian and military first responders.

Photo: Technical Sergeant Brian Schlumbolm, 168th Air Refueling Wing



Medics to Mongolia. Colonel Justine Emerson, state surgeon for the Alaska Army National Guard, helped a Mongolian patient during a Medical Readiness and Training Exercise conducted through U.S. Army Pacific. She was in the far west of Mongolia in Deluun working in partnership with Mongolian Army physicians and local Mongolian doctors. The area Emerson was in had been identified by the U.S. Embassy and the Mongolian Army as the most medically underserved in the country. Between all the medical personnel serving in this mission, they saw 1,300 patients in four days. Photo: Colonel Justine Emerson, AKARNG state surgeon



Joint Training in Japan. Alaska Army National Guard members traveled thousands of miles from remote villages on Alaska's west coast to take part in military training exercises with Japanese military forces in exercise North Wind 2005. Soldiers of the 2nd Battalion, 297th Infantry (Scout), stood in formation with their counterparts from the 11th Infantry Regiment, Northern Army, Japan Ground Self-Defense Force. North Wind 2005 allowed bilateral training in an extreme cold weather environment, where language barriers and methodologies are meant to be other training obstacles.

Photo: Specialist Ryan Haller, Alaska Army National Guard

More Guard Infantrymen Join Alaska Contingency in Iraq

CAMP DENALI. . . The Alaska National Guard was busy with deployments this fall, sending another contingency of Soldiers to Iraq – the third deployment in four weeks of Alaska National Guard members to the desert nation.

Seventy Soldiers from the Alaska Army National Guard's 1st Battalion (Forward), 297th Infantry, said their



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



Desert Sunset. Sergeant Phillip Chang, 117th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Alaska Army National Guard, stood on a ledge at the King's Tomb in Kabul, Afghanistan, looking out as the sun dawned on a new day in the desert. The 117th MPAD has been writing press releases, escorting media, documenting and photographing events all across Afghanistan since April 2005. Photo: U.S. Army Sergeant Benjamin T. Donde

Louisiana

Iraq Afghanistan



Running for Her Life. For Captain Paulette Goodwin, an Alaska Air National Guard member, running is one of the very best things she does. For herself and for her National Guard team, Goodwin competes in the rarified air of major national events. Challenging as racing is, preparation is everything she said. She should know. Getting out in minus-degree temperatures, encountering moose, bears and gigantic mosquitoes is only the start of it. Photo: Sergeant First Class Jack Murphy, Nebraska National Guard



Peaceful Patrols. Alaska Army National Guardsmen Specialist Ronald Wilson and Specialist Joseph Kalima, Alpha Company, 3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry Brigade, checked the identification of an Iraqi man as he passed through a convoy security point in a town outside of Baghdad, Iraq. The unit has been in Iraq since January 2005. U.S. Army photo by Specialist Mary Rose

Soldiers, doing everything from shoveling snow to mailing Christmas cookies to deployed Soldiers.

The U.S. Postal Service reported it expected to ship 10.5 million pounds of mail to military addresses during the six weeks before Christmas. A lot of those gifts are coming straight from Alaska, and volunteers are doing a lot more than just mailing presents.

"We had a woman in Ketchikan who had to move out of her home and family services, along with Guardmembers, stepped in to relocate her into temporary housing," said JanMyers, the Alaska National Guard State Family Program Director. That is just one example

of volunteers' kind acts: they are also helping families with counseling, financial management and collecting toys for children.

It isn't just during the Christmas season that Military families are well cared for.

"We are sending Soldiers year round support in Iraq and Afghanistan. They continue to get help and support from the home front," said Lieutenant Colonel Mike Bridges, the Deputy Commander of the 207th Infantry Group. ■

goodbyes in September in preparation for deployment to Iraq. The Soldiers will spend one year in-country. Alaska Soldiers will be in charge of military police units. The unit is based in Nome, but call several parts of Alaska home.

"This is a diverse unit of Soldiers who have come together to complete a common mission in protecting and building the freedom of a formerly oppressed nation," said Major General Craig Campbell, Adjutant General of the Alaska National Guard. "We are proud of our Soldiers and thank them for their courage, leadership and patriotism." ■

Volunteers Add Holiday Cheer

CAMP DENALI...Call them elves, Santa helpers or maybe just volunteers. They are the men and women helping to make sure families of deployed National Guardmembers serving overseas to protect American's freedom are well taken care of this holiday season.

Dozens of volunteers across the State of Alaska are donating time to help families of deployed



My Turn

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



Personal Preparedness Equals Personal Commitment

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita left extreme devastation in their wakes. It also sparked questions as to how prepared we Alaskans are for a significant disaster.

There are two key factors when we talk about our preparedness. First, how we prepare for disasters – the Alaska Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (DHS&EM), a major division within the Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, is responsible for preparedness. DHS&EM utilizes an “all hazards” preparedness approach, which includes earthquakes, tsunamis, other natural disasters and potential man-made disasters or terrorist attacks.

DHS&EM has strong partnerships with federal, state and local government agencies. They work closely with local emergency managers in developing community emergency preparedness plans. This effort includes interacting with the State Emergency Response Commission ensuring emergency planning and preparedness guidelines are established and working well at all levels of government. As an example, when a local community declares a disaster in response to an event, we convene a Disaster Policy Cabinet meeting – a forum wherein State commissioners may make recommendations to Governor Murkowski in response to the emergency.

Through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact, we may request or provide assistance to other states when our resources or theirs are depleted. This agreement extends to our neighbors in the Yukon and British Columbia. There are also National Guard assistance compacts utilizing Guard resources as was done in response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. We also work closely with Federal Emergency Management Agency

Region X and the National Weather Service.

The second factor is very personal. There are two preparedness steps that every Alaskan can take: craft a family disaster plan and assemble a disaster supply kit.

A family disaster plan lays out what you and your family will do during and after a disaster. You’ll want to ID: potential hazards in your community, pick a meeting place at a friend’s or relative’s home in case you can’t get into your neighborhood, and choose an out-of-state contact who can act as a central gathering point for family information (during a disaster, local phone lines and cell phone towers may be knocked out, but long distance lines may still be functioning). There are many other things you can and need to add to this list.

You also need to have a disaster supply kit with enough supplies for each member of the family for up to seven days. In a major catastrophe, assistance from response organizations may take up to seven days to reach you. Your kit should include water, food, medications, first aid supplies, important documents and a radio and flashlight with extra batteries. You need to store your kit in a place that everyone in the family can get to.

Our department is continuously working to ensure local governments and our neighbors are prepared for any situation. You may find more information on how you can be prepared by logging onto our Web site at www.ak-prepared.com/dmva (click on 7 Day Supply Calendar).

Remember ... being prepared is personal. It’s everyone’s job. You need to exercise your family disaster plan periodically to make sure it works! ■



Veterans

Alaska Territorial Guard Legacy: Memories With Life & Meaning

Elders Recall the Times, Sacrifices, Dedication – Honor Being Paid to Those Who Served in World War II

Story by Kalei Brooks, DMVA Public Information Officer

As a 32-year-old homemaker in Kotzebue, Alaska, during the 1940s, Pauline Howarth’s daily mission revolved around the home front – keeping dirty dishes at bay and calming the occasional cranky kid. But, in July of 1942, her mission shifted fronts, and she found herself in the middle of World War II as a mom in the military.

Pauline and her husband, Abraham Howarth, were part of 109 Alaskans who joined the Alaska Territorial Guard (ATG) in Kotzebue, a small Native village 33 miles north of the Arctic Circle on Alaska’s western coast. Although ATG members didn’t

go through basic military training, they still worked to protect the vast coastline during the Aleutian Campaign and beyond from the Japanese and other enemies during the war.

The reason behind the Howarth’s decision to join the ATG was simple: “They joined as they were asked,” said their daughter Carrie Armstrong.

Although they weren’t considered official U.S. military members at the time, they still bore the loyalty and resemblance of Army Soldiers who did get the recognition.

“My dad still had his gun and his metal hat and his canteen



Top Veteran of the Year. Governor Frank Murkowski presented lifetime Alaskan Ed Knobel with the Veteran of the Year Award during the annual Veterans & Remembrance Day event at Camp Denali, November 11. Knobel was cited for his extraordinary volunteerism efforts on behalf of Glennallen area veterans and their families. Among his accolades: overseeing a significant upgrade to the local Veterans Cemetery and providing transportation for veterans along a 400-mile route. Knobel, a World War II combat veteran, was aboard the USS Hornet during the Doolittle Raids.

Photo: Kalei Brooks, DMVA Public Affairs

when I was growing up,” said Armstrong, the seventh of the Howarth’s 12 children. “He just hung on to those, and I didn’t really bother to question why.”

While growing up, Armstrong said her parents passed on very few details about their service in the ATG, but now, decades later, she understands and appreciates their dedication in the defense of the nation. And now so does Congress and the U.S. Army.

In August 2000, service in the ATG was given federal recognition under Public Law 106-259, which amended Title 38 – Veterans’ Benefits in the U.S. Code.

“Prior to August 2000, their service wasn’t recognized as federal military service,” said Jerry Beale, State of Alaska veterans affairs administrator. “They were not eligible for Veterans Administration benefits such as VA loans, burial, health care treatment and insurance.

“Now members of the ATG may apply for all the VA benefits they are eligible for, and their ATG time is recognized as equal to those members who served in the U.S. Army.”

But it took awhile for the changes to make the books. More than three years passed before the first ATG honorable discharge certificate was awarded in 2004.

“Rule interpretations and getting those rule changes in the field so they were known and could be applied by the U.S. Army required additional clarification, which contributed to the delay,” Beale said.

The Howarth’s are part of roughly 6,500 veterans who served in the ATG during WWII, but so far, only 43 official U.S. Army honorable discharge certificates have been awarded, with the Howarths receiving the two most recent. They are the first husband and wife team to receive these certificates, and Pauline is the first female ATG member to receive a discharge from the U.S. Army.

“While women could only serve as nurses in the U.S. military for the most part, the ATG enlisted the support of all Alaskans to serve as the eyes and ears of their territory, and that included Pauline and 28 other women living in the Kotzebue region,” Beale said. “Most signed up a year before President Roosevelt signed the law to establish the Women’s Army Corps in July of 1943.”

“I’m proud of what my mom did for the people of Kotzebue by joining the ATG,” said Armstrong, who has raised six children of her own. “She was on standby when the war was going on in Pearl Harbor.”

Pauline served nearly three years in the ATG before she passed away 20 days shy of her 35th birthday in 1945. Abraham put in almost five years in the ATG, balancing his military duties with his janitorial work at the territorial school and his job at Alaska Communication Service – back when Kotzebue didn’t have phones and villagers relied on telegrams for outside correspondence. He also narrowly missed a milestone and passed away five months before his 100th birthday in 1989.

“There are approximately 300 surviving members of the ATG,” said Major General Craig Campbell, Adjutant General of the Alaska National Guard. “It was a disgrace when members passed away without being recognized as ATG Veterans of WWII; I am elated that from now on members will receive their long overdue honorable discharge from the Army and a big thank you from Americans across the country.”

Although the Howarths weren’t recognized for their service during their lifetime, their legacy and dedication to their country will live on for generations. ATG members or their survivors can apply to receive a headstone from the Veterans Administration that acknowledges a military member’s service and dedication.

“I wanted them to be recognized with a tombstone,” Armstrong said.

It’s a simple, visual memorial to the soft-spoken sacrifices many Alaskans made. ■

SYSCO Food Services of Alaska



SYSCO Alaska is proud to have the honor of feeding our United States Troops

SYstems and **S**ervices
COmpany’s philosophy is the same as it was over 40 years ago - a trusted supplier, providing food service customers with broad product lines of consistently high quality.

Our partnership with the United States Military goes far beyond our philosophy -

“We don’t just sell groceries here at SYSCO. We deliver peace of mind.”



SYSCO is an equal opportunity employer and proud employer of veterans.

(907) 977-5567
www.syscoseattle.com



Tri-national Search & Rescue Exercise Successful

Alaskans Host Russians and Canadian Forces for Arctic Search & Rescue Exercise

Story by Master Sergeant Tim Hoffman, Alaskan Command

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska . . . Rainy weather couldn't dampen the spirit of cooperation for military members from Russia, Canada and the United States for the 11th annual Arctic SAREX exercise in September.

The tri-national search and rescue exercise allows the three nations "to listen, work and learn from each other," said Lieutenant General Carrol H. Chandler, former commander of Alaskan Command and exercise host.

"We've already seen the importance of this exercise with several examples of close cooperation from the recent catastrophe on the U.S. Gulf Coast to tsunami relief operations in the Pacific," Chandler said.

Relationship building was a major focus of the exercise, and the relationships grew stronger when the team encountered a common enemy – the rainy weather.

"No inclement weather will prevent us from warm cooperation," said Russian Colonel Valeriy Stepanov through an interpreter. Following a quick rearrangement of the schedule, the Russians held true to their word, as pararescuemen from all three countries practiced using hoists and fast ropes from hovering Alaska Air National Guard HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopters.

The Alaska Air National Guard also flew HC-130N Hercules Rescue Tankers and C-130 Hercules airlift aircraft from the 144th Airlift Squadron. The 210th, 211th and 212th Rescue Squadrons provided the major host training support.

"We did a lot of AIE (alternate insertion and extraction) training," said Technical Sergeant Brandon Steemke, with the Guard's 212th Rescue Squadron. "We used the fast ropes –

it's a lot like sliding down a fire pole – only it's a thick rope and you use your hands and feet to break."

Steemke said it was unique training with the Canadians and Russians.

"I learned a lot just by talking with them," said Steemke. "I had read a lot about the Canadians techniques, but that's not the same as working with them in person."

The other device they used while the helicopters hovered overhead was the hoist.

"We practiced using the Stokes litter and the survivor's collar – what we affectionately call the horse collar – because that's what it looks like," said Steemke. "Those devices were attached to the hoists and pulled the people up and into the helicopter. Both the Russians and Canadians were very good with both."

"These exercises are important for Alaska, for our nation, and also for our Russian and Canadian counterparts," said Major General Craig Campbell, Adjutant General of the Alaska National Guard. "This particular exercise has allowed us to develop deep, long-time friendships and associations with one another," he said. "Trust and understanding grows as we work through common challenges."

For Alaskans, Canadians and Russians alike, the practice of working together adds value and impact to their breadth of experiences. Though they approach their missions and responsibilities for search and rescue operations independently, they each do it "so that others may live," a clarion credo that resounds among search and rescue teams worldwide. ■



Practice and Preparation. Alaskan and Russian search and rescue experts practice using a Stokes litter during Arctic SAREX. This exercise demonstrates and practices the capability of the United States, Canada and Russia to actually conduct search and rescue operations in an Arctic region in preparation for a real-world disaster. U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sergeant Joshua Strang



Autumn Air Rescue. Russian Air Force members observe their fellow pararescuemen being hoisted into Alaska Air National Guard Pave Hawk helicopters along with rescue specialists from Canada and Alaska during Arctic SAREX. The exercise aims to improve the interoperability between the three countries responsible for conducting search and rescue operation in the Arctic. U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sergeant Joshua Strang

Homeland Security & Emergency Management



Fall Sea Storms Come Early in 2005; Slam Same Area of State

Story and photos by Jamie Littrell, DHS&EM Public Information Officer



Road Hazards. High winds brought tidal surges that washed away portions of coastal roads in Chevak.

The fall sea storm season got off to an earlier than usual start this year with the first of the annually occurring storms buffeting the Bristol Bay area of Alaska with high winds, high tides and driving rains in late August. The strong storm produced storm surges of two to three feet above high tide levels and caused widespread coastal flooding. The hardest hit communities included the cities of Clark's Point and Togiak, causing power outages and damage to power generation units, a commercial cannery and several homes and buildings. Governor Frank Murkowski declared the storm a State disaster and allocated State funds to help the communities recover.

A few weeks later, another strong sea storm slammed into the west coast of the State, hitting the same areas of the Bering Strait and Norton Sound that received damages during a large fall sea storm in 2004. This time, the communities and the Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management (DHS&EM) were better prepared for it.

"This year, we had an early warning from the National Weather Service," said Bob Stewart, DHS&EM's Response and Recovery Manager. "We coordinated with the National Weather Service and they sent us an advance warning that something may be brewing. This coordination allowed us to be poised to work with potentially impacted communities as soon as the Weather Service issued a storm watch or warning."

DHS&EM Response and Recovery staff contacted more than 30 communities along the west coast as the storm approached, making sure they were taking appropriate measures to prepare. Storm preparedness was enhanced this year thanks to the 2005 Fall Sea Storm Preparedness Guide distributed by DHS&EM to coastal and riverine communities two weeks prior to the event. This guide outlines actions residents in those coastal and riverine communities should take to mitigate damage and/or loss from fall sea storms. According to Stewart, the early warning and preparedness initiatives helped cut the amount of damage



Storm Surges. Local workers try to shore up eroding shoreline in Kivalina during the height of the storm.

inflicted on individuals to half of what occurred in 2004, but significant damage was still sustained during the four-day storm.

Communities in the Northwest Arctic Borough, the Bering Strait, Lower Yukon, Lower Kuskokwim, and Kashunamiut Regional Education Attendance Areas (REAs), as well as the City of Nome took the brunt of the storm's force. High winds brought flooding tides that damaged roadways, airports, public infrastructure components, gabion sea walls and several private residences. In total, the storm caused nearly \$2 million in damage to communities and another \$1.2 million in damage to area roads and infrastructure.

DHS&EM staff continuously contacted communities during the storm, checking on life-safety issues and getting initial damage reports from officials. Soon after the storm subsided, joint Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and DHS&EM Preliminary Disaster Assessment teams visited the hardest hit communities, gathering information needed for the disaster declaration process.

"We received a lot of positive input from community officials and village administrators," said Stewart. "The fact that we got the Fall Sea Storm guide out to the communities, our staff urged preparedness and we checked on their well-being made a big difference to them. This year, they had a lot of notice of what was coming and they prepared for it."

The event was declared a State disaster on Oct. 24, with Governor Murkowski seeking Federal disaster assistance for recovery efforts. A Federal disaster declaration decision is pending. ■



Fall Flooding. Tides running two feet to three feet above normal caused widespread flooding in Golovin and other coastal communities.

Anchorage Boasts Only Known “Ice Cream Support Squadron”

Story by Samantha L. Quigley, American Forces Press Service



Tastee Treats. Rich Owens, Southcentral area chairman for the Alaska Committee for ESGR and owner of Tastee Freez, donated about 1,000 ice cream sundaes in November to the Alaska National Guard's largest community outreach program, Operation Santa Claus. Owens (center), along with retired Brigadier General George and Mary Lu Cannelos, rolled up their sleeves to dish up the “tastee” treats and show their support of Guard families in Kodiak.

Photo: Kalei Brooks, DMVA Public Information Officer

ANCHORAGE... Rich Owens takes great pride in his role as the “owner/commander” of Kulis Air National Guard Base’s “Ice Cream Support Squadron.”

Owens bought Tastee Freez ice cream shop and restaurant on Aug. 1, 1994, near the base, which is home to the Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Wing. He didn't know anyone from Kulis then, but 16 days later that would change. Three of his friends were in a Cessna 172 that crashed near Anchorage.

“The 210th Rescue Squadron, which is part of Kulis... happened to be at a training mission right across the inlet over here with a C-130, and they ended up getting there about five minutes after the plane went in,” he said, pointing toward the site. Two of the Cessna passengers died, and the rescue squadron saved a third.

When the survivor wanted to thank her rescuers in person about a year later, Owens accompanied her. Only then did he start to recognize members of the search and rescue squadron as they would come in for chili dogs and ice cream. This proved to be the start of Owens' and his store's growing relationship with servicemembers.

Earlier this year, Owens was invited to the retirement lunch for Brigadier General Gene L. Ramsay, commander of the Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Wing from 2002-2005. He made plans to present Ramsay with a certificate and a dessert-for-a-year punch card.

“So I got up there and said, ‘General Ramsay, on behalf of

the Ice Cream Support Squadron at Tastee Freez, I'd like to present you with this dessert-for-a-year punch card. In light of the busy schedule you have, we're actually giving you three years to use your 12 months up,” Owens said. The audience erupted into laughter, he added.

When he returned to his seat, an officer sitting with him said Owens needed a patch for the “squadron,” and so the Ice Cream Support Squadron was born.

Owens said he went home that night and sketched a design of a Tastee Freez ice cream cone in between the phrases “Alaska National Guard” and “Ice Cream Support Squadron.” Today, it's available as an informal uniform service patch and on blue and black T-shirts.

“[The T-shirts] are done so they can be worn under their uniform,” he said. “These have been sent to Iraq and Afghanistan,” where, he explained, they are a piece of home for deployed Alaskan Guardsmen who have frequented the ice cream store.

Owens said profits from the sale of the T-shirts and patches at his store will go to a family support group at Kulis.

He said that most people don't understand the magnitude of Kulis or the jobs of the men and women who work there. As an informal liaison between the base and the community, Owens tries to highlight what's happening on base.

“If there's a retirement or promotion [and] when they had their big inspections last year – they did very well – then that kind of stuff shows up on the sign out [in front of the store],” he said. The store also provides ice cream for special events like picnics and kids' Christmas parties.

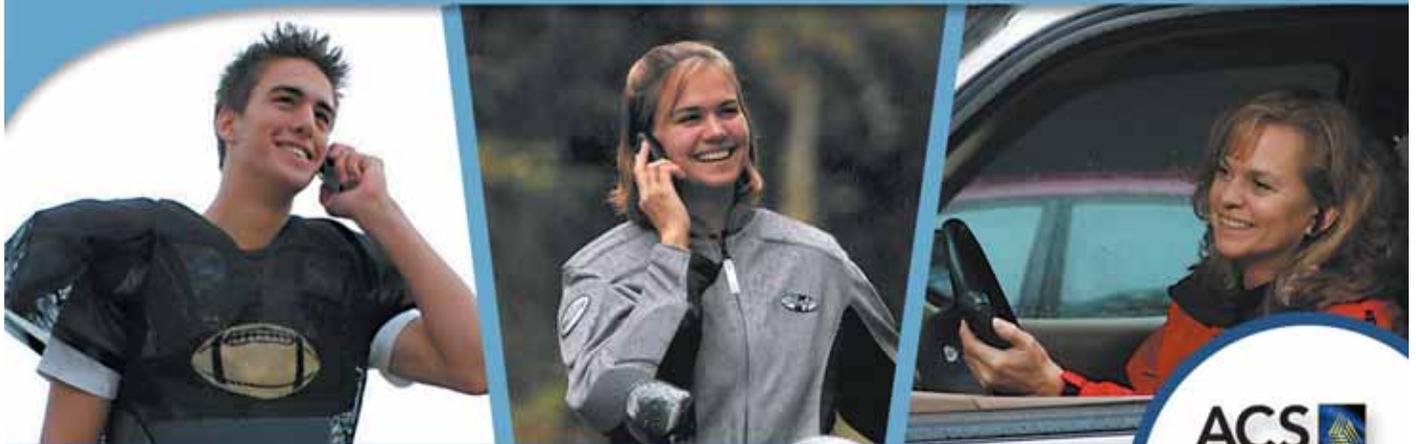
The store, its staff and the Guardsmen have become like family over the years, he said.

His support for the troops has grown over the years also. Today, Owens serves as Southcentral area chairman for the Alaska Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. He has even signed a statement of support under the national ESGR committee's 5-Star Employer Program. The statement declares, in writing, that an employer will adhere to the tenets of the federal law regulating treatment of Guardsmen and Reservists.

“It's kind of like the mutual admiration society,” Owens joked. “They get to do a lot of things that I would have liked to have done, and we can provide support for them and their families. I think that's probably the most important thing that we can do – let them know that people in the community appreciate them.” ■

Share minutes \$14⁹⁵* with family for

Call an ACS Customer Service Representative for details about the ACS Family Plan.



800.808.8083

907.563.8000

www.acsalaska.com

WIRELESS

INTERNET

LOCAL

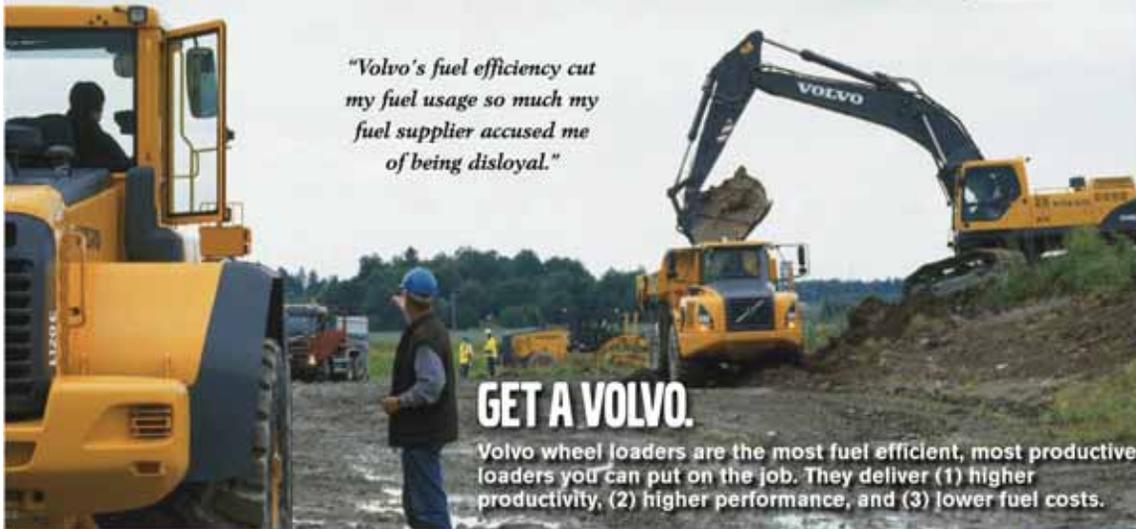
LONG DISTANCE

TELEVISION



THINK ABOUT YOUR FUEL BILL. IMAGINE IF IT WAS 30% LESS.

"Volvo's fuel efficiency cut my fuel usage so much my fuel supplier accused me of being disloyal."



GET A VOLVO.

Volvo wheel loaders are the most fuel efficient, most productive loaders you can put on the job. They deliver (1) higher productivity, (2) higher performance, and (3) lower fuel costs.



Chris Gerondale,
Southeast Region Manager



Marty Gillet, Parts Manager

IN THE WORLD

Volvo, the best construction equipment line.

IN ALASKA

CMI, the best sales and product support lineup.

IN YOUR CORNER

The Winning Team.



Construction Machinery Industrial, LLC

Anchorage, Alaska
(907) 563-3822
(800) 478-3822

Fairbanks, Alaska
(907) 455-9600

Ketchikan, Alaska
(907) 247-2228

Juneau, Alaska
(907) 780-4030
(888) 399-4030

VOLVO

North Wind 2005 Aligns Alaskan and Japanese Troops

Bilateral Exercise Gives Alaska National Guardmembers Unique Experience in Combat Training

Story by Kalei Brooks, DMVA Public Information Officer

CAMP HIGASHI-CHITOSE, Japan . . . You wouldn't think Alaska Soldiers would have to go far to train in extreme cold weather, in fact, most Soldiers in the Last Frontier can stand outside anytime during the winter and with teeth chattering, tell you how cold they're feeling. But imagine training for combat with loaded rifles, miles away from home, in frigid conditions, and the Soldier standing guard next to you can't even tell you how cold it is because you two don't speak the same language.

That language barrier and harsh elements was a battle some 250 Alaska Army National Guard Soldiers had to overcome during training exercises across the north Pacific Ocean with Japanese forces during Operation North Wind 2005 in March.

The exercise had Soldiers from the 2nd Battalion, 297th Infantry (Scout) Division, training with members of the 11th Infantry Regiment, Northern Army, Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF), for two weeks to increase combat readiness and response in areas surrounding Japan. Together, the Soldiers worked on battle preparedness covering areas such as convoy security, live fire exercises and close quarter combat.

Training was scheduled during the winter so Soldiers could acclimate themselves to extreme cold weather fighting. This environment also challenged Soldiers to react to scenarios where language and methodology greatly differ.

"I surely believe that holding a bilateral field exercise is not only for mutual understanding and increasing the skills of U.S. forces and the JGSDF, but also for the creation of trust between the United States and Japan," said Colonel Massi Sagara, 11th Infantry Regiment commander. "The United States is an important partner of Japan in every respect."

"This training is a good experience for Soldiers because they could be deployed to other countries where there will be a lot of coordinating and interacting with other forces," said Major Allen Alirkar, Alpha Company Commander, 2nd Battalion, 297th Infantry (Scout).

The majority of 2nd Battalion Soldiers are from villages along the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region. Their headquarters is located in Bethel. ■



North Wind Soldiers Patrol Frozen Terrain. Battling language barriers and extreme cold weather, some 250 Alaska Army National Guard Soldiers trained in March with Japanese Forces across the north Pacific Ocean to increase combat readiness and response in areas surrounding Japan. The bilateral training was deemed a "tremendous success" by Lieutenant Colonel Michael Thompson, commander of the Alaska Army National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 297th Infantry (Scout).

Photo: Private First Class Carina Garcia, 345th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, San Antonio, Texas

(INSET PHOTO) Live Fire Ignites Successful Bilateral Exercises. A Type 89 Infantry Fighting Vehicle took aim during live fire exercises at Shimamatsu Training Area in Japan as part of North Wind 2005. The event provided unique bilateral training for members of Alaska's Army National Guard and Japan's Ground Self-Defense Force. This environment challenged Soldiers to react to scenarios where language and methodology greatly differ. Photo: Private First Class Carina Garcia, 345th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, San Antonio, Texas



Education is Yours for the Asking

Just Follow a Few Simple Instructions and You're on Your Way

Story by Sergeant Eric Hamilton, Alaska National Guard Education Support Office



Learning to Save Lives. Forty Soldiers participated in a one-month-long University of Alaska Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) class instructed by Beth Nelson. The Alaska National Guard Education Support Office arranged this class, which was taught in the Armory at Camp Denali. Another EMT class opportunity will be available in early 2006 if there is enough interest from prospective students. Go to www.akguard.com to request this class now.

Photo: Ken Fankhauser, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs

If you're thinking about how to use education to improve yourself or your opportunities, you've probably wondered how you would pay for it. This year marks the second fiscal year that excellent National Guard funding has increased at the State and Federal levels, providing a way to pay for voluntary post-secondary education. Here's some of what you need to know to take advantage of this awesome benefit. Please note: there have been some changes – including the need to disclose other financial aid you are seeking or will receive.

First, if you are a traditional member or technician in the Air National Guard or the Naval Militia in good standing (fewer than 9 missed UTAs throughout the past year) and are planning to attend the University of Alaska, you can find the application and the sign-up dates at www.akguard.com.

A few steps. The process is simple: go to the Education page: (<http://www.akguard.com/Default.aspx?tabid=64>); click "read more" under TAG Form 621-5R under "Applications" in the upper right.

After you have read the instructions about using the Alaska National Guard/ University of Alaska Tuition Assistance (STA), you can use the link at the bottom of the page to reach the application.

When you've completed the application, it moves through an approval process. At the end, you'll receive an e-mail detailing your STA award.

Be careful not to apply for more classes than you can successfully complete; any class not completed for a grade of A, B, C or D will be recouped from your pay!

Air Guard & Naval Militia. If you are a traditional member or technician in the Air National Guard or the Naval Militia in good standing, and you're going to an in-state school, or a vocational/technical institution OTHER than a University of Alaska school, click "read more" under TAG Form 629-A. This will give you instructions about tuition reimbursement, with a link at the bottom of the page to bring you to the form.

Useful Link. For your convenience, there's a new "useful link" on the Education page that brings you to the Alaska Commission on Post-Secondary Education (ACPE) Web site, and the list of institutions it has approved. If the institution is not on this list, it cannot be approved for tuition reimbursement.

What if you want a class that you just can't seem to find time for? The Class Request Form on the www.akguard.com Web site allows requests to be coordinated. When 12 committed potential students have requested a specific class for the same location and times, the Education Support Office can get the class scheduled.

Army Guard Uniqueness. If you are a traditional member or technician in the Alaska Army National Guard, your primary school funding method comes through Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA.) Application is still done through www.virtualarmory.com and the funding limit remains at \$4,500 per fiscal year (\$250 cap per semester hour or \$166 per quarter hour), and it is still mandatory that your grades be sent to the ESO within 30 days of the end of your class(es) to prevent recoupment of the FTA from you. As with state tuition assistance, failure to complete courses will also cause recoupment (but not for "F" grades).

For Federal Tuition Assistance, the deadline for application is no later than the add/drop deadline for the school – but Soldiers using FTA are strongly encouraged to apply early and are allowed to do so as much as 90 days before classes start. This will help prevent funding and administration problems, both for the student and for the school. Federal Tuition Assistance is "up-front," so the only out-of-pocket costs are for books or optional fees, which can be covered through the G.I. Bill. (Army Guard members can receive both the G.I. Bill and Tuition Assistance at the same time.)

Finally, the latest news is the annual recoupment action for both state and federal tuition assistance programs. Students with missing grades, withdrawals, incompletes, and other reasons for recoupment are being contacted via e-mail and certified mail regarding money that will be withheld from them to repay funds that were disbursed for these unsatisfactory courses. If you are in this position, call the ESO today.

There will be minimal staffing in the ESO office anticipated for January to March 2006.

To reach the ESO, be prepared to leave a message at (907) 428-6477, or e-mail les.poletzky@us.army.mil. ■



Family Support

Big Bucks to Support Families of Deployed Military Members

Golf Tournament Raises Money for Alaska Guard, Army and Air Force

Story by Kalei Brooks, DMVA Public Information Officer

CAMP DENALI, Alaska . . . A local golf tournament, which fundraised money for the Alaska National Guard, Army and Air Force, turned out to be a swinging success – and now the more than \$16,000 will go to support Alaska service members and their families.

Vince and Barb Mee presented the funds raised at their 10th Wedding Anniversary Golf Tournament September 27 at the Eagle River VFW. The Alaska National Guard's Family Support Program, Elmendorf Air Force Base's Project Warmheart and Fort Richardson's Association for the U.S. Army each received a check in the amount of \$5,505 to benefit the families of deployed military members.

"This tournament was a great way for the community to come together and show its support for our men and women in uniform," said one of the tournament sponsors Perry Green, of David Green Master Furrier. "The money will go to those affected by deployments the most once Soldiers and Airmen leave their homes – the families."

Vince, a retired Air Force Chief, and Barb, who managed U.S. Senator

Ted Stevens' Alaska offices for more than 30 years, were married at Eagle Glen Golf Course by Stevens August 18, 1995. They chose their 10th Anniversary to conduct the fundraiser to help the families of those deployed, as well as for families affected by upcoming deployments.

Many retired military members assisted in this fundraising activity, in addition to local businesses and political leaders. ■



Helping Guard Families. Tom Morgan (right), president of the Alaska chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army, presented a \$1,000 check to State Command Sergeant Major David Hudson (left) and State Family Program Director Jan Myers (center) for the Family Services support fund. The money was intended to help spouses of deployed Guard members attend the Non-Commissioned Officers' Ball, as well as provide assistance to Guard families in need.

Photo: Kalei Brooks, DMVA Public Information Officer

**When Only The Best Will Do...
Call Linford.**

For over 30 years, we've been supplying the finest ingredients to Alaska's best eateries.

We specialize in a wide variety of products... If we don't have what you need in stock – we'll do our best to find it, order it and deliver it to you!

Call us today at 907-272-5050 or 1-800-355-8905.

Let us demonstrate the Alaskan difference.

www.linfordofalaska.com

Trouble Keeping Up with The Jones'?
An "interest only" loan can move you up AND out for about the same price.

NORTHSTAR MORTGAGE CO.

For more information call: 907/268-7508
3333 Denali St., Ste. 150 Anchorage, AK 99503
www.northstarmortgageco.com



Who We Are...

What is your favorite family holiday tradition?

Mike Frost

DMVA Security Officer



"We, as a family, open only one gift at a time on Christmas Day. It takes a while with three daughters."

Lori Mitchell

SATO Travel



"Trimming the tree with my three children, they all put on their own decorations."

LT Les Poletzky

1/207th Aviation Battalion



"The holidays are my favorite time to take leave... to see and explore exotic locations."

Karen Saucer

DMVA Accounting Clerk



"I love going to the Nutcracker Ballet."

SFC Sean Hitchcock

AKARNG Property Management



"Family get together and eating turkey on Thanksgiving."



Environmental

Preserving the Land: Citizens & Soldiers

Alaska Army National Guard Environmental Section Wins Big

Story by Christine Nangle, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs

The Environmental Section of the Alaska Army National Guard has proven to be top notch in the nation by winning two awards in November for outstanding efforts in protecting cultural resources and the environment.

Alaska has unique conditions, with most armories accessible only by boat and plane, which makes protecting our environment challenging. But the Environmental Section of the Guard swept up two different awards proving, once again, the section's success.

Norman Straub, Facilities Management Division environmental specialist, was recognized for his work in environmental restoration. He has made significant and lasting contributions to environmental restoration, which can be a challenging task considering the State's vast geography, lack of infrastructure and unpredictable weather.

Straub is responsible for managing 76 sites and has been efficient in closing several sites that have soil contamination. Adding to his credits, Straub's innovative cost saving program has been recognized by winning this coveted award.

He said, with a smile, that receiving the award is an honor

and humbling experience. "It's flattering; it is not often that you get recognized on a national level, and in fact is the first time ever," Straub said. He went on to add that the entire department strives to be good stewards of the land and works to keep future land available for training, thereby enhancing future missions.

In addition to Straub's accolade, the Alaska Army National Guard's Cultural Resource Program was awarded for its outstanding accomplishments in statewide cultural resources management. The program enhances awareness and appreciation of cultural resources by conserving historic and cultural properties.

"We are respectful of Alaska's heritage" said Jerry Walton, cultural resource manager. "We protect and conserve it. We also embrace our varied cultures, which benefits us all."

The Environmental Section takes pride in their work and say Alaska's unique culture and pristine environment make it a wonderful place to live. The Alaska Army National Guard's environmental and cultural resources awards show the strong commitment the Guard has to preserving Alaska as the amazing and magnificent place it is. ■



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 last 4th of July parade before World War I in Nome, Alaska, 1916. Many of the Nome men watching the parade would join the Home Guard Militia within nine months.

Photo: Carrie McLain, Nome, Alaska

The Great War – Part III

No history of Alaska would be complete without the builders of the territory such as Greely, Glenn, Allen, Steese, Taylor, Schwatka, Wilds Richardson and Billy Mitchell. Development of the Territory and the military have always gone hand in hand.

The official announcement of a National Guard for Alaska was printed in the Daily Alaska in Juneau in the morning issue of June 1, 1917. A front page article announced that, "The National Guard of Alaska is now virtually an established fact, word having come directly to the Governors office by cable yesterday from Newton D. Baker, Secretary of War."

Juneau was in a festive mood and basked in the glory of being a headquarters city. The Daily Alaska ran an editorial that literally oozed enthusiasm:

The Alaska Guard

So, Alaska is to at last get her place in the sun, and one of these days we shall see real Alaskan Soldiers, well trained and fully equipped marching down the street to the music of the band. One hundred men are not many but a full company is quite an imposing little force in a city of this size and, perhaps, not many more could spare time for the training.

It is pleasant to imagine that this force could be made distinctively Alaskan as it will be made up of the flower of Alaska men. It might for instance get the habit of wearing Forget-Me-Not, Alaska's territorial emblem, on big occasions if

military rules would not forbid such decorations. The fact that Juneau and Fairbanks alone were mentioned in the cablegram from the Secretary of War to the Governor leaves us guessing as to what is actually intended. Such a force in Fairbanks could be of no use or defense but it is possible that the two companies will be made the nucleus of a greater force to come later. Anyhow, here is to the National Guard of Alaska.

On June 2, 1917, the Governor received additional information concerning the two companies of infantry from Brigadier General William A. Waun, Chief of the Militia Bureau. According to the Act of Congress approved June 3, 1916, the territory was authorized an Adjutant General and a staff to be located in Juneau, but under Section 66 of the act, The Adjutant General had to be a citizen of the Territory of Alaska. This effectively eliminated many of the letters of application flooding the Governor's office. The two companies could contain no more than 150 individuals each and each was authorized three cooks and two buglers. The territory was to provide suitable armories or drill halls and was charged with protecting Federal property in satisfactory store houses.

Hundreds of letters coming into the Governors Office from all over the territory requesting information on joining the National Guard worried the man in charge.

On July 31, 1917, newly promoted Lieutenant Colonel Peter W. Davidson wrote a letter on Road Commission letterhead stationery to the United States Army, Western Division, and San Francisco, California. Davidson stated that he had been charged by the

Governor of the Territory to organize the Guard. He requested that supplies of circulars, bulletins, etc., from the Militias Bureau be furnished as, "At this moment not one copy of orders, circulars, or information letters on the National Guard are on file in this office and I am unable to give the Governor any information about this matter. There is at present no National Guard in Alaska and I would appreciate information as to how the first offices are to be selected. Also, I would like to know if there are any blanks for the enlistment of men compromising the Company." San Francisco sent the requested forms by return mail.

On July 3, 1917, President Wilson issued a proclamation through Secretary of State Robert Lansing: "I do hereby draft into the military service of the United States as of and from the 5th day of August, 1917, all members of the National Guard and all enlisted members of the National Guard reserve." Signed, Woodrow Wilson.

This proclamation, the organization of the Selective Service System in Alaska and other factors delayed an Alaska National Guard until another generation organized the 297th Infantry in 1939. ■

Next *Legacy* installment from *Soldiers of the Mists* series: *The Great War – Part IV*.

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.



Retirements



Pride of Service. Brigadier General Richard Blunt received the Alaska Legion of Merit Medal from Major General Craig Campbell, the Adjutant General, during his retirement ceremony held recently at the Camp Denali Readiness Center. Blunt who served more than 30 years with the Army and the Army National Guard, completed distinguished tours of duty with U.S. Forces Korea and earlier with American Forces in Macedonia. He held numerous command and leadership roles with the Alaska Army National Guard. More than 500 Soldiers, family and friends gathered to take part in the ceremony. He is married to Ms. Anita Porter. They make their home in Anchorage. Photo: Major Mike Haller, JFHQ-AK Public Affairs

- CSM Harold Tolan1st Bn
- SGT Andre WilliamsJFHQ-AK (Army)
- CPT Gilbert Alirkar2nd Bn
- SGT Curtis YountSpt Bn
- TSgt Charles Rubin144th AS
- MSgt James Durr176th CES
- Lt Col Max Woodcock144th AS
- TSgt Mark Glatt212th RQS
- Lt Col David Bronson176th MXG
- MSgt Teresa Cooper176th WG
- MSgt Sheila Dailey176th MDG
- TSgt Valerie Johnson176th MXS
- CMSgt John Savina176th AMXS
- MSgt Robert Guillory176th SVF
- TSgt Jeffrey Whitten176th SVF
- Maj Aaron Harrop176th WG
- MSgt Martin Kimble176th MDG
- SSgt Bruce Mosher176th AMXS
- SSgt Lisa Poplar176th MSF
- CMSgt Garth Lenz210th RQS
- Maj Christopher Kobi176th WG
- MSgt Scott Ravenscroft210th RQS
- TSgt Charles Lawson176th MXS
- MSgt Douglas Kaaihue176th CES
- TSgt Lindwood Parker176th ARF
- MSgt Sally Mahoy176th MXS
- SMSgt Richard Clampitt176th MDG
- MSgt David Cole176th MXS
- CMSgt James Grimes176th MXS
- TSgt Anthony Knapp144th AS
- CMSgt Brian Shaffer176th LRS
- MSgt Wendell Matthieu176th SFS
- Col Lawrence AppelJFHQ-AK (Air)
- TSgt Anthony Stoddard176th ACS
- Lt Col Linda Johnson176th MDG
- CMSgt Glen Smalley176th MXS
- CMSgt Angela JonesJFHQ-AK (Air)
- Lt Col Steven PolitschJFHQ-AK (Air)
- MSgt Richard Howell176th AMXS
- MSgt Stephen Gogain176th SFS
- SMSgt John Eng176th MXS
- MSgt Scott Weber176th MXS
- MSgt Joseph Buli144th AS
- MSgt Bradley Garner176th MXS
- TSgt Alexander Clark176th SFS
- MSgt Philip Wilson211th RQS
- MSgt Steven Cook176th AMXS
- MSgt Allen Minish144th AS
- MSgt Wendy Moody176th WG
- SMSgt Mark Carlson176th MXS
- Maj Mario Binder176th MDS
- Capt Andrew Grendahl210th RQS
- TSgt Daniel Johnsen168th LRS
- MSgt Lori Hamilton168th MDG
- MSgt Stephen Shugars168th LRS
- TSgt Patrick Ozanne168th LRS

- SGT Raymond Amos2nd Bn
- SGT Daniel Azean2nd Bn
- SGT Steven Ballot1st Bnt
- SGT Alfredo Bernal207th Avn
- SGT James Bongers1st Bn
- MSG Debbie BullockJFHQ-AK (Army)
- SFC Janet Carter117th MPAD
- CW4 Jon Chapman207th Avn
- COL Dennis DonovanJFHQ-AK (Army)
- CSM Richard Eigilis2nd Bn
- SSG Robert Herman3rd Bn
- SGT David Hurlbut207th Avn
- LTC Sheila KopczynskiJFHQ-AK (Army)
- 1SG Daniel Kurka207th Avn
- MSG Terrence Pardee3rd Bn
- SFC Peter Paul2nd Bn
- SFC Michael PhillipsRTI
- CW4 Martin Stauber207th Avn
- CW4 Dorothy Stenstrom-Mozelle207th Avn
- SSG Timothy Trapp207th Avn
- CPT Eric Van Heel207th Avn
- SSG Jerry Wassillie2nd Bn
- SGT Max Agayar1st Bn
- BG Richard BluntJFHQ-AK (Army)
- SFC Nicholas CayfordJFHQ-AK (Army)
- SSG Simeon Chakuchin2nd Bn
- SGT Gregory Friday3rd Bn
- SGT Dale Krisda1st Bn
- SFC Felix MelendezJFHQ-AK (Army)
- SGM Daniel BrummerJFHQ-AK (Army)
- MAJ Gary Curtiss1st Bn
- CW4 James Hill207th Avn
- COL Dennis Kline207th Grp
- SFC Charles Miller103rd CST
- SSG Pedro Montanez207th Grp
- SSG Sean Octuck1st Bn
- SFC Peter Paul2nd Bn
- CW4 Bruce Perry207th Avn
- MAJ James Tikiun2nd Bn
- SSG Irene WashingtonJFHQ-AK (Army)
- SFC Lawrence WhiteR&R
- CW5 Charles Hamilton IIIJFHQ-AK (Army)
- LTC Allen Bird207th Avn
- MSG David Castle207th Grp
- SFC Ferdinand Cleveland2nd Bn
- LTC Lyle CrinklawJFHQ-AK (Army)
- 1SG James Dittlinger207th Avn
- SFC Teresa Farnum49th Space
- MSG Kevin Knowlton1st Bn
- SFC Juanita ThomasJFHQ-AK (Army)



Awards • Decorations • Promotions

Legion of Merit



SGM Daniel BrummerJFHQ-AK (Army)

Meritorious Service Medal



CSM Kerry AverettRTI
 LTC Charles Bradford207th Grp
 CW3 Albert Ostrowski207th Grp
 CPT Gilbert Alirkar2nd Bn
 CW4 John Hardy207th Avn
 MSG Daniel Kurka207th Avn
 SFC Charles Miller103rd CST
 CMSgt Angela JonesJFHQ-AK (Air)
 Maj Mitchell GatesJFHQ-AK (Air)
 Col Michael Rauenhorst168th MSG
 Col Kent Coker168th MXG
 MSgt Lori Hamilton168th MDG
 MSgt Jimmy Walters168th MXG
 Maj Claude Swammy168th OG
 MSgt Michael Harper168th ARS
 Maj James Owen144th AS
 MSgt Stephen Gogain176th SFS
 Lt Col Linda Johnson176th MDG
 Lt Col Laura Kelm176th ACS

Army Commendation Medal



CPT Noel Padiangco1st Bn
CPT James Eskelson1st Bn

SSG Thomas Stokesberry207th Grp
TSgt Gregory Pippin168th OSF

Air Force Commendation Medal



Maj Stephanie Rowland168th ARS
 MSgt James Wolverton168th ARW
 TSgt William Paul168th OSF
 1Lt Melissa Jackson168th ARW
 Maj Karen Mansfield176th WG
 TSgt Jonathan Davis212th RQS
 TSgt Robert Schnell212th RQS
 Maj Richard Watson176th RCC
 MSgt Steven Slagle212th RQS
 SrA Robert Neff206th CCS
 SSgt Valerie Floyd206th CCS
 SSgt William Patton206th CSS

Army Achievement Medal



1SG Jeffrey Coker49th Space
 SPC Craig Davis49th Space
 SSG William Gallagher49th Space
 SPC Keith Forte1st Bn
 PFC Jeremy Gray1st Bn
 SSG Jonathan Goree1st Bn
 SPC Jere Just1st Bn
 SGT Scott Langley1st Bn
 SGT Nicholas Phillips1st Bn
 2LT Wesley Schaefer1st Bn
 PFC Sheena Lindsey207th Grp
 SSG Daryl Shoup207th Grp

Air Force Achievement Medal



MSgt Dolores Ogden168th AMXS
 SrA Nathan Outten168th AMXS
 MSgt Timothy Gilbert168th AMXS
 MSgt Mark Ruedy168th AMXS
 SrA Aaron Coman168th AMXS
 MSgt Antonio Lucchesi II168th AMXS
 TSgt John Laqua168th ARS
 A1C Monica Menninger168th OSF
 TSgt Curtis Brenton176th SFS
 Maj Marie Wauters176th MSF
 SSgt Mark Turton176th SFS
 SMSgt David Streit176th WG
 Lt Col Anthony Stratton144th AS
 SMSgt Robert Price176th LRS
 Maj Maralee O'Meara176th AMXS
 Maj Thomas Bolin176th OPS
 Maj Renee Blake176th LRS
 SMSgt Angela Mattila176th COMM
 MSgt Shawn Arnzen176th MXS
 Lt Col Ty Lee176th WG
 CMSgt George Kale176th LRS
 CMSgt Karen Johnson176th MSF
 MSgt Brian Hartley176th MSF
 CMSgt Allan Jackson176th SVF

Army Good Conduct Medal



SFC Jody Heffele1st Bn

Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal



LTC Marc Coulombe207th Grp
MSG David Foli207th Grp

Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon



SFC Paul Bekoalok1st Bn
 SGT Lawrence Esmailka1st Bn
 PV2 John Evan Jr1st Bn
 PV2 Jeremy Gray1st Bn
 PFC Charles Harry III1st Bn
 SFC Jody Heffele1st Bn
 SPC Edward Kokrine1st Bn
 SGT Dale Kriska1st Bn
 SSG Morris Nassuk1st Bn
 SPC Ryan Polty1st Bn
 SPC Jimmy Queenie1st Bn
 SPC Harold Rivers1st Bn
 SFC Gerould Troupe1st Bn

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 disseminating information on earthquake risk mitigation to the public.

AK Legion of Merit



MSG Daniel Kurka207th Avn
 SFC Charles Miller103rd CST
 CW4 Bruce Perry207th Avn

AK Distinguished Service Medal



CPT Gilbert Alirkar2nd Bn
 LTC Charles Bradford207th Gp
 CW4 Martin StauberJFHQ-AK (Army)

AK Commendation Medal



Ms Joan BoltzFam Spt
 CDR Tom BrewerPublic Health Svc
 SSG Desiree ChambersSpt Bn

Ms Jan GlinesFam Spt
 PFC Tonya JamesSpt Bn
 Ms Angela JostFam Spt
 MSgt Jan MyersFam Spt
 SSG Darin SwainSpt Bn
 CPT Michael Jones103rd CST
 SSG Michael Grunst207th Grp
 MSG Brian Bradby207th Grp
 SGT Desiree Chambers207th Grp
 SGT Aimee MastMed Det
 1LT Robyn Thomas207th Grp
 MSG Robert Van Vleck196th Inf
 MAJ Charles Benson196th Inf
 Mr John CramerAdmin Svs

AK Community Service Medal



SSG Michael Grunst207th Grp
 COL Jeff ArnoldJFHQ-AK (Army)

SSG Sean GrandeJFHQ-AK (Army)
 SGT John RutheJFHQ-AK (Army)
 SGT Gary SmithJFHQ-AK (Army)

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

PROMOTIONS

Lieutenant Colonel

Nolan Elliott168th ARS
 Richard Cavens176th WG
 Jessica Stealy-Kelsch168th ARW
 William Toney144th AS
 Michael Wellman211th RQS
 Jay Pullins176th ACS

Major

William Hunstein168th OSF
 James Fowler168th ARS

Captain

Craig Fleener168th MXS
 Irma Keator168th MDG
 Joseph Conroy212th RQS
 Marc Overson144th AS
 Steven Aragon176th MDG
 Glenn Muilenburg176th MXS

1st Lieutenant

Andrew Williams176th STF
 Bethany Ordway168th ARW
 Mathea Meurer168th MSG

Chief Master Sergeant

Cindy Gollwitzer168th CF
 Cyrus CooperDET 1

Master Sergeant/First Sergeant (E-8)

Louis CrewJFHQ-AK (Army)
 Roma ScougaRTI
 Tim Dughmman207th Avn
 Marc Petersen207th Avn

Senior Master Sergeant

John Youngblood176th MXS
 Antony Mahoy176th MXS
 Kendell Gamblin168th MSF
 Antony Mahoy176th MXS
 John Youngblood176th MXS

Sergeant First Class

John CarricoR&R
 Frank PhillipsSpt Bn
 Lonnie StaibR&R
 David Cochrane207th Avn
 Kenton Connolly207th Avn
 Williams SmithiesMed Det
 Edward WashingtonJFHQ-AK (Army)

Master Sergeant (E-7)

Wesley Freistone176th CES
 Richard Beal176th CES
 Jason Harris168th ARS
 John Hendrick176th MXS
 Harold Meier176th MXG
 Leigh Norman176th MOF
 John Catiller210th RQS DET 1
 William Yockell206th CBCS
 Carla Mashaney210th RQS DET 1
 Eric Welling176th LRS
 Curtis Brenton176th SFS
 Todd Redinius168th MXS
 Weisley Freistone176th CES
 Richard Beal176th CES
 Norman Leigh176th MOF
 Meier Harold176th MXG
 Hendrick John176th MXS
 William Yockell206th CCS
 John Catiller210th RQS

Carla Mashaney210th RQS
 Eric Welling176th LRS
 Curtis Brenton176th SFS

Staff Sergeant (E-6)

Troy Godwin103rd CST
 Jason Delange49th Space
 Christopher FillmanJFHQ-AK (Army)
 Kimberly Francis49th Space
 William HerznerSpt Bn
 Thomas Lewis49th Space
 Gregory Pugh49th Space
 John Ruthe207th Grp

Technical Sergeant

Richard Smith168th OG
 Barbara Maglaqui168th MDG
 John Duhaime168th OG
 Clifford Phillips168th OG
 Bobbi Paul168th LRS
 Conrad Rojas168th MXS
 Robert Parsons168th MXS
 Jonathan Hammond176th ACS
 Victor Solano176th ACS
 David Johnson212th RQS
 Christopher Robertson212th RQS
 Janet Lemmons176th WG
 Casey Hill144th AS
 Donald Coffman176th MXS
 Andrew Beuch176th MXS
 Christopher Southerlin176th CF
 William Patton206th CCS
 Denise Cooney176th ACS
 Angel Gurtler176th LRS
 Chelsea Johnson176th LRS
 Robert Anderson176th CES
 Ronald Frost176th SFS

PROMOTIONS

Continued from page 27

Technical Sergeant (continued)

Anthony Gardner 176th SVF
 Earl Singleton 176th LRS
 Patrick Davis 176th APF
 Bernard Desena 176th AMXS
 Mitchell Hawkins 176th MXS
 Asia Gile 176th CF
 Nick Giannakos 176th MOF
 Brian Hessert 176th MXS
 Garrick Hoehne 212th RQS

Sergeant

Nicholas Dutton 207th Grp
 Jason Martin 49th Space
 Seth McMillan 207th Grp
 Scott Miller 207th Avn
 Paul Norris 2nd Bn
 Kevin Atuk 1st Bn
 Jack Carlson 49th Space
 Thomas Cleary 49th Space
 Craig Davis 49th Space
 Danielle Davis 49th Space
 Michael Diachenko 49th Space
 Todd Godwin 49th Space
 Jerrick Lien R&R
 Francisco Marrerodiaz 49th Space
 Clayton Mullins 49th Space
 Rosa Ralls 49th Space
 Erich Reed 207th Grp
 Levi Roy 49th Space
 Kevin Rupp 207th Grp
 Sarah Seymore 49th Space
 Joseph Thibault Spt Bn
 Damian Tucker 49th Space
 Joshua White 49th Space

Staff Sergeant

Nathan Gray 168th AMXS
 Scott Gracik 168th MXS
 Nicholas Fountain 168th AMXS
 Terry Ahseln 168th MXS
 Joseph Mowery 168th MXS
 Aaron Bunn 176th AMXS
 Leslie Diermyer 144th AS
 Jay Mendoza 176th LRS
 Adam Muller 176th ACS
 James Campbell 144th AS
 Timothy Munoz 176th STF
 Johnnie Johnson 176th ACS
 Audrey Smith 11th RCC
 Joshua Browning 176th CES
 Gerald Harrington 176th CES
 Michael Robertson 176th SVF
 Pauline Jones 176th MDG
 Leah Scott 176th SVF
 Calvin Bradley 176th LRS
 Emily Lawley 176th APF
 Orelivis Ibarra 176th CF



Start of the Trail

Welcome our newest members & employees



Valley's Larson Twins join 176th Wing. Brigadier General Tony Hart, right, swears in newest Air Guardmembers. They've done a lot of things together in their lives – beginning with their births. Now, Jerome and Mark are among the newest members of the Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Wing at Kulis Air National Guard Base. They did something else together too. Prior to their enlistment into the Guard, they graduated from the Alaska Military Youth Academy at Camp Carroll and went on to complete their regular high school diplomas. "I have been in recruiting a long time, and this is my first set of twins to ever enlist," said Master Sergeant Beth Miller. "Mark is assigned as an HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter crew chief and Jerome will become a C-130 Hercules fixed wing crew chief," she said. The men plan to attend college for free, thanks to their Guard membership. They are the sons of Joel and Jane Larson of Palmer. Photo: Major Mike Haller, JFHO-AK

176th Wing

Alan Ratzlaff
 Maria Cardell
 Deane Norris
 Kristina Elliot Jones
 Maria Torres

Jim Settle
 Alan Ratzlaff
 Winslow Truax
 Karl Westerlund

168th Wing

Tiffany Preast
 Jimmy Rice
 Tiffany Sims
 Marvin McNamee
 Robert Ostrander

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	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Joint Forces Headquarters – Alaska (Air)	5-6	3-4	7-8	11-12
Joint Forces Headquarters – Alaska (Army)	5-6	3-4	7-8	11-12
Alaska Army National Guard				
207th Infantry Group	5-6	2-4	14-15	4-5
1/207th Aviation Regiment	5-6	2-4	6-8	3-5
297th Support Battalion	5-6	2-4	6-8	3-5
Regional Training Institute	5-6	10-11	14-15	4-5
Alaska Air National Guard				
168th Air Refueling Wing	5-6	3-4	7-8	11-12
176th Wing	5-6	3-4	7-8	11-12

Future Cargo Aircraft

Team FCA — C-295/CN-235



Others promise.
We perform.

Proven in Iraq, Afghanistan and the U.S. homeland, the C-295/CN-235 is the only Future Cargo Aircraft solution ready to meet the needs of the U.S. Army now. Team FCA aircraft carry more troops and more cargo at the lowest operating cost and highest availability and reliability rates. They back this performance record with unmatched global maintenance and support from the Team FCA partnership of Raytheon and EADS CASA North America.

www.raytheon.com/TeamFCA



Raytheon

Customer Success Is Our Mission

FREEDOM ISN'T FREE.

Today, men and women across the U.S. are stepping forward to protect freedom and their fellow Americans. Many are members of the Army National Guard. They are citizen-soldiers, so they can answer the Nation's call, whenever, wherever, and for as long as they are needed. And while all Americans are able to enjoy freedom, not everyone is able to be a member of this proud and elite team. Think you can? Call 1-800-GO-GUARD (1-800-464-8273) or visit www.1-800-GO-GUARD.com to learn more about the Army National Guard.

Alaska



1-800-GO-GUARD

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

WWW.1-800-GO-GUARD.COM