



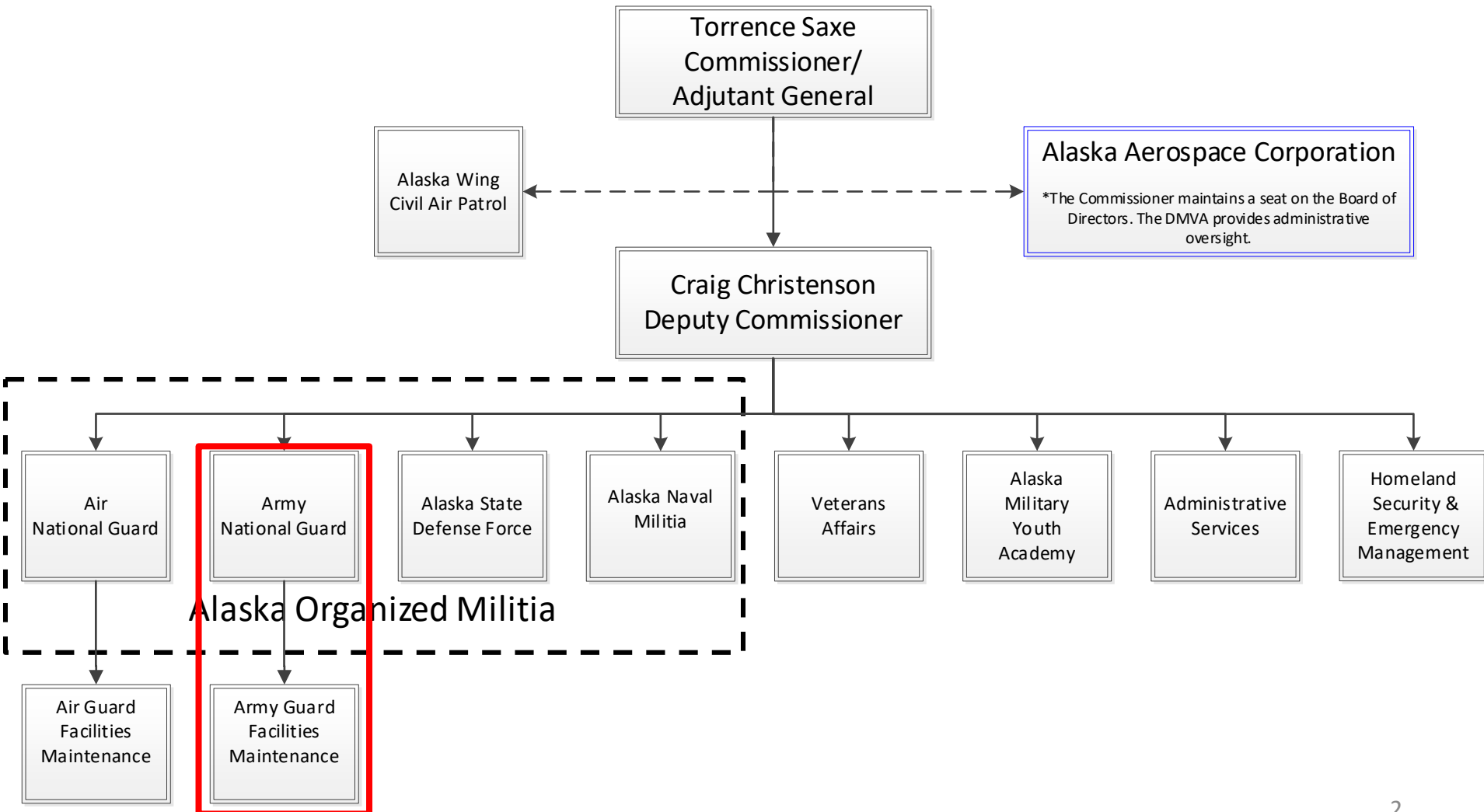
# Overview of the Alaska Army National Guard



Presentation to the House Military and Veterans Affairs  
Special Committee  
April 27, 2023  
Brigadier General James Palembas



# Organization





# Key Leaders



The Adjutant General  
Major General  
Torrence W. Saxe



Senior Enlisted Leader  
CSM Julie Small



AKARNG Commander  
BG James M. Palembas



AKARNG SCSM  
CSM James P. Nyquist



38<sup>th</sup> TC CDR  
COL Aaron Kelsey



297<sup>th</sup> RSG CDR  
COL Alex Elmore





## Vision

A diverse, trusted, and capable organization built on ready and resilient soldiers and leaders.



## Mission

The AKARNG builds and maintains ready units and soldiers that are prepared to support the Governor and fellow Alaskans for domestic operations and deploy worldwide in support of US National Strategy.



# Units & Locations



**1741 Soldiers across three major units:**

## **Joint Force Headquarters (JFHQ)**

AK Medical Detachment

AK Recruiting and Retention Battalion

Headquarters Detachment – Army

## **38th Troop Command (TC)**

103rd Civil Support team

49th Missile Defense Battalion

207th Aviation Troop Command

- UH60, HH60, CH47, C12, LUH72

## **297th Regional Support Group (RSG)**

134th Public Affairs Detachment

208th Construction Management Team

49th Personnel Detachment (Theater Gateway)

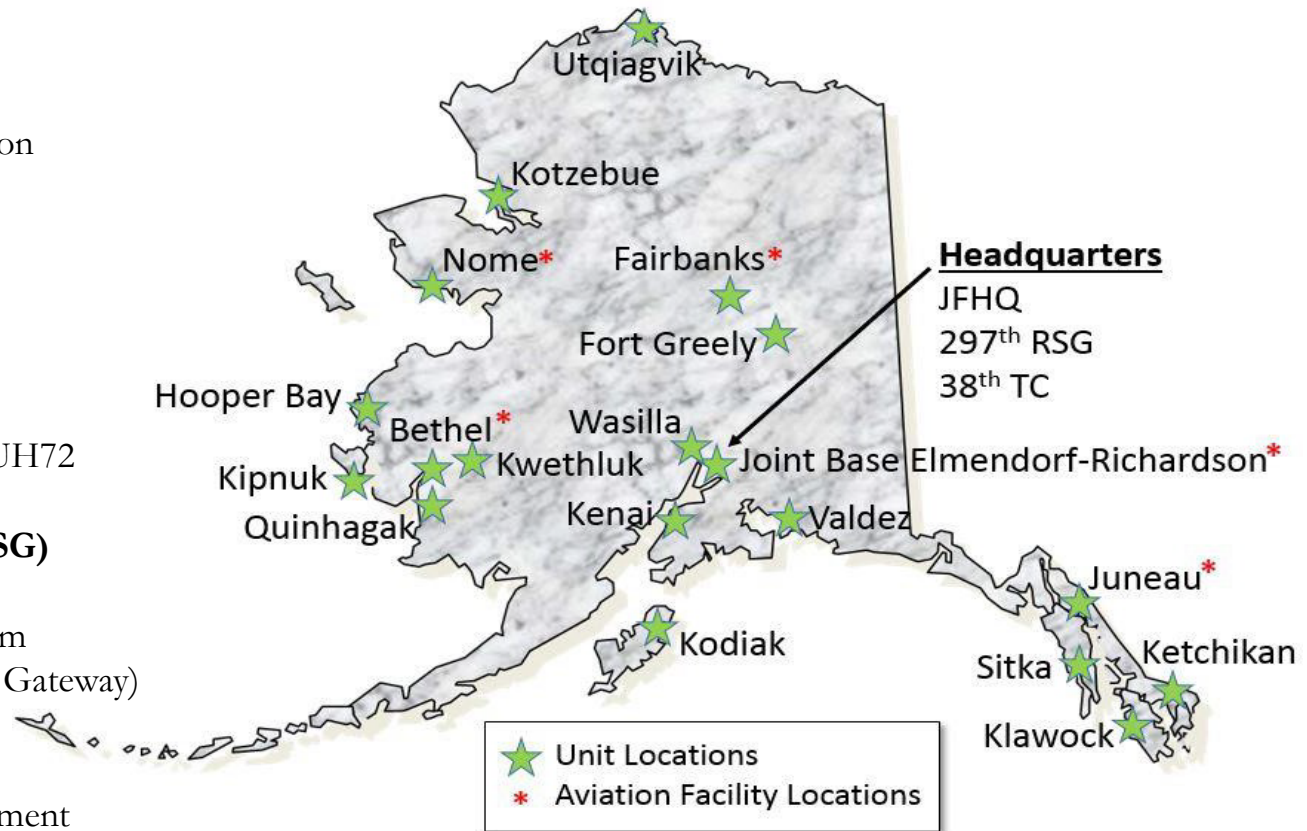
1-297th Infantry Battalion (-)

297th Quartermaster Team

207th Multi-Functional Training Regiment

910th Engineer Support Company

297th Law Enforcement Det





# Brigade Organizational Missions



## 297<sup>th</sup> Regional Support Group (RSG) Mission

The RSG is a deployable headquarters that manages base camps or base clusters with a population of 6,000 or more personnel and requires services beyond basic life support. Additionally, the 297th RSG ensures its subordinate units are trained, equipped, and available for federal and state missions.

During Defense Support of Civil Authorities operations, the RSG serves as a brigade-sized command responsible for all assigned units.

*Currently the 297th RSG is tasked to support the transition of Fort Riley, KS from an inactive Mobilization Force Generation Installation (MFGI) to an active MFGI during Large Scale Mobilization Operations (LSMO)*

## 38<sup>th</sup> Troop Command (TC) Mission

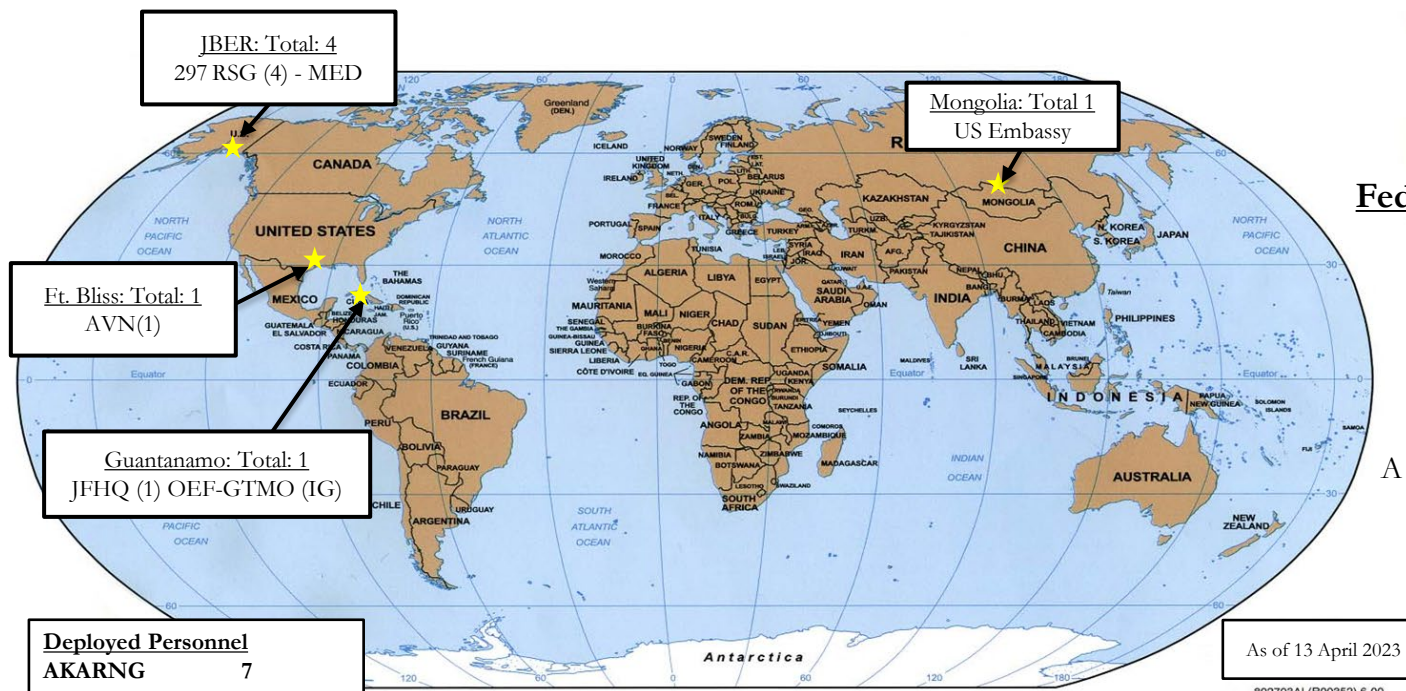
The TC is a non-deployable headquarters element designed to provide C2 over disparate units and ensures its subordinate units are trained, equipped and available for service in the event of a federal or state emergency.

During Defense Support of Civil Authorities operations, the 38th TC serves as the primary headquarters for Joint Task Force-Alaska.





# Federal Operational Relevance



## Federal Deployments since 2018

JFHQ – Afghanistan (14)  
208th CMT – Jordan (7)  
49th TG – Kuwait (9)  
297th MP – Kuwait (86)  
1-297th IN – Kosovo (168)  
297th RSG – Poland (79)  
A Co 1-168 AV – CENTCOM (63)  
C/2-641 AV – HOA (4)  
C/2-641 AV – CENTCOM (5)



# Homeland Defense



The 49th Missile Defense Battalion operates and secures the Ground-based Midcourse Defense (GMD) system at Fort Greely 24/7/365. They are prepared to destroy intercontinental ballistic missiles in mid-course to defend the US and designated areas with assets at Fort Greely and Vandenberg Air Force Base.





# Civil Support



Arctic Care

**OPERATION  
Typhoon Merbok  
Response**

**COVID  
Response**

**Election  
Support**

**CBNRE  
Response**



**Rescue Coordination  
Center support**

**Rotary wing  
CASEVAC  
and MEDEVAC**

**Wildfire  
suppression**



**Winter Storm  
Responses**

**Counter Drug**

**Veterans  
Stand Down**





# State Partnership Program



## Alaska – Mongolia State Partnership Program

- Partners since 2003
- Share similar challenges and opportunities
- Co-deployments for 17 years in Iraq and Afghanistan
- Overseas Deployment Training to Khaan Quest Exercise 2006-Present
- Humanitarian Assistance training: Gobi Wolf Disaster Response Exercise and Exchange
- Subject Matter Expert Exchanges: leadership, engineering, security, disaster response, medical, etc.
- Whole of Government participation in public health, public policy, natural resources, education, and humanitarian assistance







# Operations



## Enduring Operations

- 19-unit locations throughout the state
- Full time manning in 11 locations

## Operations Last 90 Days

- Detachments 1&2 Golf Company 2-211th GSAB, supported a Combined Arms Life Fire Exercise at JBER by providing 24hr MEDEVAC Operations
- 103rd Civil Support Team supported local Anchorage security elements for the 2023 Iditarod Race Ceremonial Start
- 49th Missile Defense Battalion trained on a fire control software update and an additional missile interceptor field
- 49th Theater Gateway provided Joint Reception, Staging, and Onward Integration support to Joint Pacific Multinational Readiness Center (JPMRC) at JBER, Clear and Fort Wainwright, Alaska
- Defense Movement Cell (AKARNG G4) with augmentation from 11th Airborne managed over 100 convoys and over 500 pieces of rolling stock in support of JPMRC
- 1-297th Infantry Battalion conducts training supporting their upcoming Joint Readiness Training Center Annual Training and deployment in early FY24

## Community Events

- Cama-I Dance Festival in Bethel, Alaska
- River Watch
- Operation Santa







# Questions?







**“Always Ready, Always There”**



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**Commander and State Director of the Army National Guard**  
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