

**COMALCOM REMARKS
FOR
ANCHORAGE ROTARY LUNCHEON
2 JULY 02
(Final)**

- **THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING HERE TODAY. IT IS A PRIVLEDGE TO BE THE FIRST SPEAKER OF THE NEW ROTARY YEAR. IT IS ALSO AN HONOR TO KNOW YOU WILL SPEND THE NEXT YEAR LEARNING MORE ABOUT YOUR MILITARY EACH MONTH.**

- **SOME YEARS AGO WHEN I WAS FIRST EXPOSED TO THE ROTARY I WAS PLEASED TO LEARN THE ROTARY MOTTO AND ONE OF OUR AIR FORCE CORE VALUES ARE VIRTUALLY THE SAME – SERVICE ABOVE SELF. AND ALTHOUGH THE WORD SERVICE IS USED IN A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT CONTEXT BY OUR TWO ORGANIZATIONS, IT MEANS THE SAME THING.**

- **WE ARE WORKING TO ADDRESS TODAY'S MOST CRITICAL ISSUES WORLDWIDE. YOU ALL ARE TACKLING THINGS LIKE ILLITERACY AND POVERTY AND WE'RE DEFENDING OUR NATION'S FREEDOMS FROM THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO SEE US CRUMBLE. WE ARE ALL TRYING TO MAKE THIS WORLD A BETTER PLACE.**
- **THE BOND OF SERVICE TO OTHERS IS A SPECIAL ONE, AND IT DRAWS GOOD PEOPLE TOGETHER. AT WHAT OTHER TIME IN RECENT HISTORY CAN YOU RECALL STRANGERS PROVIDING SO MUCH SERVICE TO OTHERS THAN IN THE AFTERMATH OF 9-11 AND IT CONTINUES TODAY.**
- **I DON'T BELIEVE ANY OF US FULLY IMAGINED THE TERRORIST ATTACKS OF SEPTEMBER 11TH.**

- **MORTAL ENEMIES COORDINATED THESE HORRIFIC EVENTS WITH CRAFTINESS, ORDERING MASS MURDER, NOT OF U.S. COMBATANTS BUT, VERY DELIBERATELY, OF NON-COMBATANTS.**
- **TODAY, THE TALIBAN REGIME LIES IN RUINS – AND THERE IS RENEWED HOPE FOR THE PEOPLE IT OPPRESSED. THE TERRORISTS ARE BEHIND BARS OR ON THE RUN, INCLUDING TWO SIGNIFICANT PLAYERS RECENTLY ARRESTED IN MOROCCO AND IN THE NETHERLANDS. AND THE NATION THEY SOUGHT TO BRING TO ITS KNEES HAS RISEN TO NEW HEIGHTS OF RESOLVE. THERE ARE NOW OPPORTUNITIES IN AFGHANISTAN FOR CHILDREN TO BE EDUCATED AND FAMILIES TO BE SAVED FROM HUNGER AND POVERTY.**
- **BUT THE CAMPAIGN CONTINUES. FOR THIS IS NOT THE CONVENTIONAL WAR OF ARMED CONFLICT BETWEEN THE ARMIES, NAVIES AND AIR FORCES OF NATIONS DEFINED BY GEOGRAPHICAL BOUNDARIES.**

- **THE WAR ON TERROR IS BEING FOUGHT ON MANY FRONTS...SIMULTANEOUSLY.**
- **IN ADDITION TO OUR MILITARY CAMPAIGN, OUR SUCCESS DEPENDS ON:**
- **FINANCIAL EFFORTS—BECAUSE TERRORISTS NEED MONEY TO CARRY OUT THEIR EVIL DEEDS. THOSE ACTIVE IN FINANCE MUST EXERCISE DUE DILIGENCE HERE. NO PATRIOT SUPPORTS THE ENEMY FOR PROFIT.**
- **DIPLOMACY—BECAUSE TERRORIST NEED STATE SPONSORS AND WE NEED INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS.**
- **LAW ENFORCEMENT--BECAUSE TERRORIST AND THOSE WHO SUPPORT THEM ROUTINELY DISGUISE THEMSELVES AS NON-COMBATANTS AND MUST BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE.**

- **AND, FINALLY, INTEGRITY...INTEGRITY IN PUBLIC SERVICE, INTEGRITY IN BUSINESS AND CORPORATE MGT, INTEGRITY IN OUR INSTITUTIONS OF FAITH, AND INTEGRITY IN OUR PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS.**
- **ON THE FINANCIAL FRONT, MANY NATIONS HAVE HELPED US TO DEPRIVE TERRORISTS OF MORE THAN \$60 MILLION IN ASSETS.**
- **DIPLOMATICALLY, THE PRESIDENT HAS ASSEMBLED AN INTERNATIONAL COALITION OF 68 NATIONS THAT IS REPLACING OLD RIVALRIES WITH A COMMON DETERMINATION TO DEFEAT TERROR.**
- **IN TERMS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT, WE ARE LEADING A GLOBAL ANTI-TERROR DRAGNET. WE WANT TO BRING TERRORISTS AND THEIR SUPPORTERS TO JUSTICE EITHER VIA CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS OR BY DETENTION OF ILLEGAL COMBATANTS.**

- **AS WE SPEAK, THE MEN AND WOMEN IN OUR ARMED FORCES ARE DEPLOYED ON THE FRONT LINES AROUND THE WORLD. MORE THAN 5,000 ARE IN AFGHANISTAN. ABOUT 1,000 ARE IN KYRGYZSTAN.**
- **MY AIDE, MIKE HOLMES, JUST RETURNED FROM UZBEKISTAN. AND MORE ARE IN SURROUNDING COUNTRIES THROUGHOUT SOUTHWEST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA, INCLUDING THE PHILIPPINES. THOUSANDS OF RESERVISTS AND NATIONAL GUARDSMEN HAVE BEEN RECALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY AND ARE SUPPORTING DOMESTIC AND WORLDWIDE OPERATIONS.**
- **THIS IS A TOTAL FORCE EFFORT. OUR TROOPS ARE ACCOMPLISHING A COMPLEX AND DANGEROUS MISSION WITH GENUINE COURAGE, SKILL, AND DETERMINATION.**

- **COUPLED WITH THESE EFFORTS ABROAD, THE PRESIDENT HAS MADE HOMELAND DEFENSE THE NATION'S TOP PRIORITY.**
- **MORE THAN 11,000 AIRMEN HAVE FLOWN OR SUPPORTED 20,000 SORTIES TO SECURE OUR SKIES AND PROVIDE AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING. AS YOU KNOW, PROTECTING AMERICA'S NORTHERNMOST BORDERS HAS BEEN THE MISSION OF THE ALASKAN NORAD REGION FOR NEARLY 50 YEARS. SEPT. 11 JUST EXPANDED OUR TRADITIONAL MISSION TO LOOK NOT ONLY AT THE EXTERNAL THREAT, BUT ALSO AT THE INTERNAL ONE AS WELL.**
- **THE MEN AND WOMEN OF ALASKA NORAD REGION ARE ON DUTY 24 HOURS TRACKING THE MOVEMENT AND PURPOSE OF MORE THAN 1,600 FLIGHTS EVERY DAY.**

- **PROTECTING OUR “OTHER” BORDERS IS THE US COAST GUARD. IMMEDIATELY AFTER SEPTEMBER 11 MORE THAN 2,000 COAST GUARD RESERVISTS WERE MOBILIZED IN THE LARGEST HOMELAND DEFENSE AND PORT SECURITY OPERATION SINCE WORLD WAR II.**
- **THE COAST GUARD REMAINS AT A HEIGHTENED STATE OF ALERT AT OVER 360 MAJOR PORTS, INCLUDING SOME HERE IN ALASKA. THE COAST GUARD’S DEDICATION TO THIS MOST IMPORTANT DUTY IS TYPICAL AND TRULY NOTEWORTHY. RADM JIM UNDERWOOD, THE NEW CDR OF COAST GUARD DISTRICT 17, WILL SPEAK TO YOU IN THE FALL.**
- **THESE THINGS ARE ALL KEY TO ACHIEVING OUR GOALS...BUT SUCCESS CAN’T BE ACCOMPLISHED BY OUR MILITARY ALONE, OR EVEN BY OUR GOVERNMENT...AND THE NEW HOMELAND SECURITY DEPARTMENT.**

- **SUCCESS DEPENDS EVEN MORE ON THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. YOU AND ME...CLOSING AS MANY AVENUES OF POTENTIAL ATTACK AS POSSIBLE AND PREPARING FOR NEW, IMAGINATIVE FORMS OF TERRORISM.**
- **WE MUST KNOW OR GRASP OUR VULNERABILITIES AND TAKE THE STEPS NECESSARY TO MITIGATE THEM.**
- **THE HOMELAND DEFENSE/HOMELAND SECURITY CONCEPT IS AN EXAMPLE OF KEEPING AN EYE ON OUR “HOUSE”. FROM THE ALASKA NORAD REGION MONITORING ALASKA’S AIRSPACE TO THE COAST GUARD INCREASING SECURITY AT OUR VITAL PORTS, EVERYONE HAS AND CONTINUES TO FILL THEIR ROLE WILLINGLY AND WITH PRECISION.**

- **OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS THE ALASKAN COMMAND STAFF, IN CONJUNCTION WITH MANY OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL AGENCIES HAVE PRACTICED HOW WE WOULD RESPOND TO CHANGES IN THE THREAT.**
- **NORTHERN EDGE, ALASKA'S LARGEST JOINT TRAINING EXERCISE, GAVE US INVALUABLE SCHOOLING IN THE PROTECTION OF ONE OF OUR NATION'S CRITICAL ASSETS IN APRIL...THE VALDEZ MARINE TERMINAL. A FOLLOW-ON EXERCISE IN EARLY JUNE CALLED ARCTIC STRIKE, LED BY THE FBI, ADVANCED OUR PREPAREDNESS EVEN FURTHER.**
- **MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL TRAINED ON A VARIETY OF SCENARIOS SIMULATING THREATS TO THE TERMINAL AND THE SURROUNDING PORT. WE HAVE DEVELOPED A GAMEPLAN TO ENHANCE AIR, MARITIME AND GROUND DEFENSE OF THE TERMINAL SHOULD EVENTS REQUIRE.**

- **LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT IS A NEW ENVIRONMENT WITH NEW CHALLENGES. WE MUST BE READY TO MEET THESE CHALLENGES HEAD ON.**
- **THAT MEANS ACCELERATING OUR PLANS FOR MILITARY TRANSFORMATION, TAKING FULL ADVANTAGE OF ADVANCED WARFIGHTING CONCEPTS.**
- **THE ARMY WILL SOON BE A MORE MOBILE, RESPONSIVE, MEDIUM WEIGHT FIGHTING FORCE AS THE INTERIM BRIGADE COMBAT TEAMS COME ON LINE.**
- **THIS LIGHTER, LEANER FORCE WILL USE SMALLER VEHICLES THAT CAN BE MOVED QUICKLY INTO BATTLE. THE 172ND INFANTRY BRIGADE AT FORTS WAINWRIGHT AND RICHARDSON WILL BECOME ONE OF THESE FAST-MOVING, WELL-ARMED...**

- **...COMBAT TEAMS. MG JIM LOVELACE, CDR US ARMY ALASKA, WILL SPEAK HERE IN AUGUST.**
- **THE AIR FORCE CONTINUES TO EVOLVE ITS EXPEDITIONARY AEROSPACE FORCE CONCEPT.**
- **AS A LEAD AIR EXPEDITIONARY FORCE WING, ELMENDORF'S OWN 3RD WING'S MISSION IS CRITICAL TO MAINTAINING SECURITY AND NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY. MANY ELMENDORF PERSONNEL ARE CURRENTLY DEPLOYED AS PART OF AEF 3.**
- **IN ADDITION, ALASKA WAS RECENTLY SELECTED TO HOST THE AIR FORCE'S NEWEST TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT, THE C-17 GLOBEMASTER III.**
- **IT IS THE MOST FLEXIBLE CARGO AIRCRAFT TO ENTER THE AIRLIFT FORCE AND IS CAPABLE OF RAPID DELIVERY OF TROOPS AND ALL TYPES OF CARGO OVER STRATEGIC DISTANCES.**

- **THIS FORCE-MULTIPLIER WILL ALLOW THE ARMY IBCT'S TO MEET THEIR RAPID DEPLOYMENT VISION.**
- **JUST THINK OF IT...C-17S, AN IBCT, AND TWO VERY CAPABLE FIGHTER WINGS IN THE STATE READY TO GO... REPRESENTING ALASKA AND OUR NATION.**
- **ONE OF THE REASONS ALASKA CONTINUES TO ATTRACT THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY IS THE FANTASTIC RANGES THAT EXIST IN THIS STATE.**
- **THE OPPORTUNITIES PROVIDED TO US FOR INTEGRATED AIR AND GROUND TRAINING ARE LIKE NO OTHER, AND WE MUST PRESERVE THE VIABILITY OF THESE NATIONAL ASSETS...AND THE BASES THAT SUPPORT THEM.**

- **THIS MEANS, FOR EXAMPLE, EXERCISING CARE IN PURSUING WELL-INTENDED INITIATIVES THAT, IF NOT CAREFULLY CONCEIVED, WOULD LIMIT ACCESS TO THE ELMENDORF RUNWAY. THE KNIK ARM CROSSING PROPOSAL IS A CASE IN POINT.**
- **WE ARE ALSO CONTINUING TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE MISSILE DEFENSE TESTING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.**
- **AS YOU SAW LAST MONTH, THE U.S. OFFICIALLY WITHDREW FROM THE ABM TREATY AND WE BROKE GROUND AT FORT GREELY TWO WEEKS AGO. NOW THE MISSILE DEFENSE PROGRAM WILL BE ABLE TO COMPLETE THE REALISTIC TESTING NECESSARY TO HELP SUPPORT A FIELDING DECISION. ULTIMATELY, THIS COULD PROVIDE ONE MORE COMPONENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY... MISSILE DEFENSE... SOMETHING WE DO NOT NOW ENJOY.**

- **INTEGRATION OF NEW CONCEPTS AND TRANSFORMATION WILL CHALLENGE ALL OF OUR MILITARY SERVICES.**
- **WE HAVE TO PREPARE TO DEFEND OUR NATION AGAINST THE UNKNOWN, THE UNCERTAIN, THE UNSEEN AND THE UNEXPECTED. THIS WILL TAKE FORWARD THINKING AND IT ENTAILS SOME RISK.**
- **WE MUST BE AS SWIFT AS WE ARE STRONG—AS FLEXIBLE AS WE ARE FIERCE.**
- **WE HAVE SOME OF THE MOST TALENTED MEN AND WOMEN IN OUR COUNTRY PUTTING ON A MILITARY UNIFORM EVERYDAY. THEY DO, LIKE YOU DO, BELIEVE IN THE VALUE OF SERVICE BEFORE SELF.**
- **I AM EXTREMELY PROUD OF THE JOB OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM ARE DOING.**

- **AND I AM EQUALLY PROUD OF THE SUPPORT YOU HAVE SHOWN OUR PEOPLE IN YOUR PERSONAL CAPACITIES AND AS A SERVICE ORGANIZATION.**
- **WE HAVE FACED TREMENDOUS CHALLENGES SINCE SEPTEMBER 11 AND, IN TYPICAL ALASKA FASHION, PEOPLE HAVE PULLED TOGETHER TOWARD A COMMON GOAL.**
- **WE ARE WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE THIS A BETTER WORLD. WHETHER IT IS OUR MILITARY ON THE GROUND IN AFGHANISTAN ROOTING OUT TERRORISTS OR THE PEOPLE IN THIS ROOM FACILITATING INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS AND PROFESSIONALS, WE ARE ALL REPRESENTATIVES OF THIS GREAT LAND.**
- **WE CANNOT LET THE LIKES OF CLEVER TERRORISTS BRING FEAR TO OUR LIVES.**

- **FOR AMERICA IS THE LAND OF THE FREE AND THE HOME OF THE BRAVE. THANK YOU FOR INVITING ME TO SHARE THIS TIME WITH YOU TODAY.**