



KANSAS ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT
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TOPEKA, KANSAS 66611

**STATE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT
REMARKS OF MAJOR GENERAL LEE TAFANELLI
JANUARY 14, 2015**

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to be here today.

As I have in the past, I'd like to begin with our deployed troops. Currently, 93 Kansas National Guard Soldiers and Airmen are deployed around the world. This number follows a decreasing deployment trend; however, I will tell you that in spite of the drawdown of operations in Southwest Asia the Kansas National Guard is preparing to deploy an additional 142 Soldiers and Airmen within the next 90 days to various locations throughout the world.

This past year, the Kansas National Guard provided direct support to three different theaters of operation. The 190th Air Refueling Wing provided aerial refueling support in the Pacific theater, acting as a force multiplier and extending our nation's presence in the region. The 35th Infantry Division deployed to Kosovo as part of a NATO Support Element team, filling key positions in the NATO and Kosovo Force headquarters.

Soldiers from Company G, 2nd Battalion, 135th Aviation Regiment were welcomed home from their deployment to Afghanistan this past September. These Soldiers provided aeromedical evacuation support and rapid evacuation and movement of patients while providing en route care to higher echelons of medical treatment, movement of medical personnel and accompanying medical equipment and supplies, consistent with evacuation priorities and operational considerations, to and from points as far forward as possible.

In November, the Department of Defense announced that approximately 170 soldiers of the 891st Engineer Battalion would deploy to West Africa in 2015 to build Ebola care centers for Operation United Assistance. However, changing mission requirements resulted in cancellation of the deployment.

I'd like to take a moment to honor all of the men and women of the Kansas National Guard who are still sacrificing time with their families, holidays, anniversaries and children's birthdays. They continue to quietly and professionally answer the call to duty, and I continue to be incredibly proud of their commitment and service to this state and nation.

I must also remark on the great sacrifices that are made to fulfill our mission to protect life and property and to provide a ready military, emergency management and homeland security capability for Kansas and our nation. Our emergency management personnel work tirelessly to support disaster response efforts across the state and our service members are ready to respond in the state and across the world to protect the freedoms we have in this country. It's truly an honor to work with these individuals who are willing to make this sacrifice.

As you may well know, a major winter storm system blanketed the state this past February with as much as 15 inches of snow in some areas. Gov. Sam Brownback declared a State of Disaster Emergency for all of Kansas in response to the major winter storm. The Kansas National Guard deployed nine teams consisting of two Humvees and four soldiers to transport emergency and medical personnel and assist stranded motorists, as the State Emergency Operations Center in Topeka was activated during the storm.

The Kansas Division of Emergency Management and its many partners including state agencies, local government, private sectors and other key stakeholders revised the Kansas Response Plan during 2013. This plan became effective as of Feb. 17, 2014.

The Kansas Response Plan applies to all state government departments and agencies providing assistance in a disaster or emergency situation. Within, it describes the fundamental policies, strategies, general concept of operation and incident management action to be used through all phases of emergency management. The plan serves to provide guidance and policy direction on interfacing with county emergency operations plans and the National Response Framework and is based on the fundamentals within the National Incident Management System.

An open house and ribbon-cutting ceremony was held March 21 at the Heartland Preparedness Center, in Wichita, which was designed as a joint-use facility for the Kansas National Guard and local law enforcement. The federally-funded \$24 million center is home to the Kansas National Guard's 287th Sustainment Brigade, which moved into the facility in September 2013.

April saw more disaster response as an EF2 tornado struck Baxter Springs the evening of April 27, cutting a swath about three blocks wide through the heart of the town. Thirty-four people were injured and 60 homes were destroyed with another 42 suffering major damages. The tornado also destroyed or damaged several businesses. Again, Gov. Sam Brownback approved a State of Disaster Emergency proclamation and the State and KDEM played a crucial role in the disaster response efforts.

Seven police officials from the Republic of Armenia visited Kansas May 7-10 as part of the National Guard Bureau State Partnership Program. The Kansas National Guard has been partnered with Armenia since 2003 to foster mutually beneficial military-to-military, military-to-civilian, and civilian-to-civilian relationships. The Armenians spent two weeks in Kansas observing and participating in several hazardous materials training scenarios with the 73rd Civil Support Team. They were able to see the training exercise in Emporia at the beginning of their trip and spent their last week in the state participating in an exercise at Crisis City near Salina.

The 2nd Combined Arms Battalion, 137th Infantry Regiment of the Kansas Army National Guard was the recipient of 29 brand-new M1 Abrams tanks. A portion of the tanks were delivered in May and the remainder were delivered in September. The battalion is the first in the National Guard to receive the new tanks and one of the few Guard units that will use the new model, which has significant upgrades.

In June, Kansas National Guardsmen of the 137th Transportation Company, Olathe, spent their annual training in the Black Hills National Forest, South Dakota, participating in the Golden Coyote exercise. The exercise, hosted by the South Dakota Army National Guard, is known for being the largest U.S. sponsored international exercise for the National Guard with military units representing 50 multiservice units from 15 states, and international military groups from the United Kingdom, Denmark, Canada and Suriname. More than 4,400 soldiers, sailors and airmen participated this year.

The 235th Regiment, Regional Training Institute in Salina completed the final phase of the 2014 accreditation process on July 10. A team from the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command conducted the accreditation over a four-day period. The 235th Regiment replicated the success of the 2011 accreditation by earning the coveted "Institute of Excellence" rating.

In August, Kansas played host for Vigilant Guard 2014, a large-scale, multi-state disaster response exercise sponsored by U.S. Northern Command and the National Guard Bureau that tests the capabilities of emergency response agencies at all levels of government, both military and civil. More than 2,000 local, state and federal personnel took part over the course of the six-day exercise, which was conducted at several locations in the state, including Fort Riley, Topeka, Wichita, Overland Park, Salina, and Crisis City and Smoky Hill Air National Guard Range outside of Salina, Aug. 3-7.

The Kansas State Department of Education hosted the seventh annual Safe, Healthy and Prepared Schools Conference in Manhattan Sept. 22-23. The conference is sponsored by the Kansas Center for Safe and Prepared Schools, Kansas Department of Homeland Security, Kansas Attorney General's Office, Kansas Department of Education and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

The Kansas Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 108th Aviation Regiment from Army Aviation Support Facility 2 in Salina joined forces with the Ellsworth Correctional Facility to conduct a prison riot simulation exercise.

The exercise, sponsored by the Kansas Department of Corrections, took place at the Ellsworth prison Sept. 24 and was to practice the airborne tactical response to a crisis within prison grounds. Improving communication and teamwork between the command structure – from the prison warden to the secretary of corrections, the governor and adjutant general, down to the local agencies – was the goal of the exercise.

October saw the return of a historic Kansas Army National Guard unit, as the 130th Field Artillery Brigade was reactivated during a ceremony in Manhattan Oct. 19. The new brigade brought 15 new full-time National Guard jobs and 163 part-time National Guard positions. The part-time jobs are traditional National Guard positions in which individuals train one weekend a month and two weeks a year.

I would be remiss if I did not mention how grateful we are for the support we receive from our elected officials; our local, state and federal partners and stakeholders; and from the families of our employees and Guard members. We know we could not do what we do without this.

This past year brought us both opportunities and challenges, and we know more of each will come in 2015. We will work together to find the best path forward with the goal of ensuring a better Kansas in the year ahead and for our future generations.

For a number of years, we have seen significant geopolitical, economic and technological change. As policymakers do their very best to understand and navigate an increasingly chaotic national security environment, our agency is taking the initiative and preparing now.

Through tremendous work on the part of Kansas Army and Air National Guard units, readiness metrics continue to be sustained at high levels. As you know, these are important metrics which the Departments of the Army and Air Force will make future force structure decisions based on. Readiness statistics show the Departments of the Army and Air Force that Kansas National Guard units are manned, mission ready, and able to take on expanded force structure and mission sets.

Their decisions and plans determine whether we lose certain units and missions, keep what we have, or gain new units and new missions. This directly affects the number of National Guard soldiers and airmen we have in the state, what types of equipment and training they receive, and how many facilities we have. Fewer units mean fewer jobs, fewer formations across the state, and fewer manpower and equipment resources to assist with floods, tornadoes and other disasters.

Given the potential for deep cuts to future military budgets, these readiness numbers are perhaps the most important measure of how Kansas National Guard units and their commanders are performing. I'm pleased with our overall improvement, but we must and will continue to do more to try and minimize force structure reductions.

In addition, we must continue to forge partnerships and work with other agencies, private industry and academia to develop fiscally sustainable methods to identify new and emerging threats, and deal with them in a state-based approach; not dependent on federal strategies.

In regard to homeland security, the department is analyzing systems-level threats to Kansas critical infrastructure, working with private industry to improve cyber security, and partnering with the University of Kansas and Kansas State University on identifying bio-threats to animal, plant and human health.

We believe that our Kansas model which utilizes a strategy that is based on strong collaboration and planning efforts between public and private partners provides us the best approach in dealing with myriad of homeland security threats that we face.

The model, encompassed within the Kansas Intelligence Fusion Center or KIFC, is a one-stop shop for statewide information sharing between local, state, tribal and federal government agencies, non-governmental organizations and private entities. The KIFC produces strategic analysis products for partners and policy makers. These products provide earlier warning and risk assessments that support the development of mitigation strategies, plans and policies. The KIFC analysis also fills national level intelligence gaps.

KIFC warning and risk assessment efforts continue to precede federal analysis by months to years with notable examples being West African Ebola analysis that provided critical analysis to Kansas Public Health planning as far back as February 2014.

The Center has been noted as model for the nation by the chief of the National Guard Bureau and both the commander and deputy commander of U.S. Northern Command. The KIFC is currently leading roughly 15 other states who are working to emulate the KIFC model for National Guard, public and private collaboration that excels at filling previously unaddressed homeland security intelligence analysis gaps. With increasing frequency, the KIFC is outpacing national level efforts to provide early warning on terrorist threats streams impacting the homeland.

We know that there are some real challenges to Kansas on the horizon. Fiscally, the Kansas Army and Air National Guard are currently experiencing reductions in force structure, with a collective impact of reducing our strength by over 100 positions in both the Air and Army National Guard. We know that we will likely face additional reductions in force structure, equipment and basing in the years ahead. Homeland security and emergency management grants and other associated funding will likely continue to be focused more and more on the major urban areas, with high-population density.

Additional efforts to stabilize the department include moving the Headquarters element of the Kansas National Guard to Forbes Field. The department is currently in the final stages of preparing to relocate to the 190th Air Refueling Wing in an effort to reduce costs, help stabilize the long term prospects of a Kansas National Guard presence at Forbes Field and gain operational efficiencies.

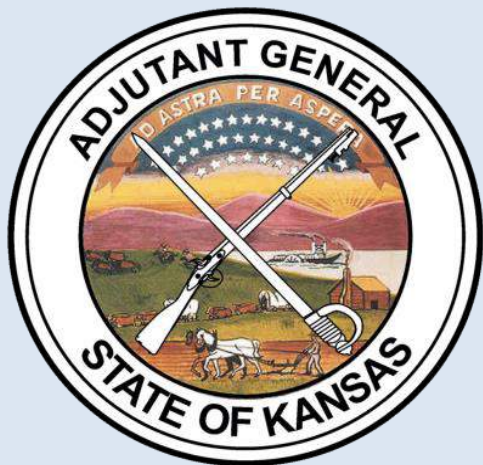
I am confident that the professionals in our department remain vigilant, with an eye on what threats are on the horizon and the knowledge that their fellow Kansans depend on them to be ready, in spite of the challenges that lie ahead.

I can assure you the Adjutant General's Department will do its best to continue to innovate and find new and improved ways to providing military, homeland security and emergency management services well into the future. We will continue to examine current and future challenges, develop high value actions within our control, and then carry out those actions in the most effective way possible. And finally, we will never forget that we do all of this in service to the people of Kansas and the United States of America, their freedoms and continued way of life.

Thank you for your continued support. I stand ready for your questions.

Respectfully submitted by:

Maj Gen Lee E. Tafari
Kansas Adjutant General
14 JAN 2015



The Adjutant General's Department



MG Lee Tafarielli
The Adjutant General
January 14, 2015



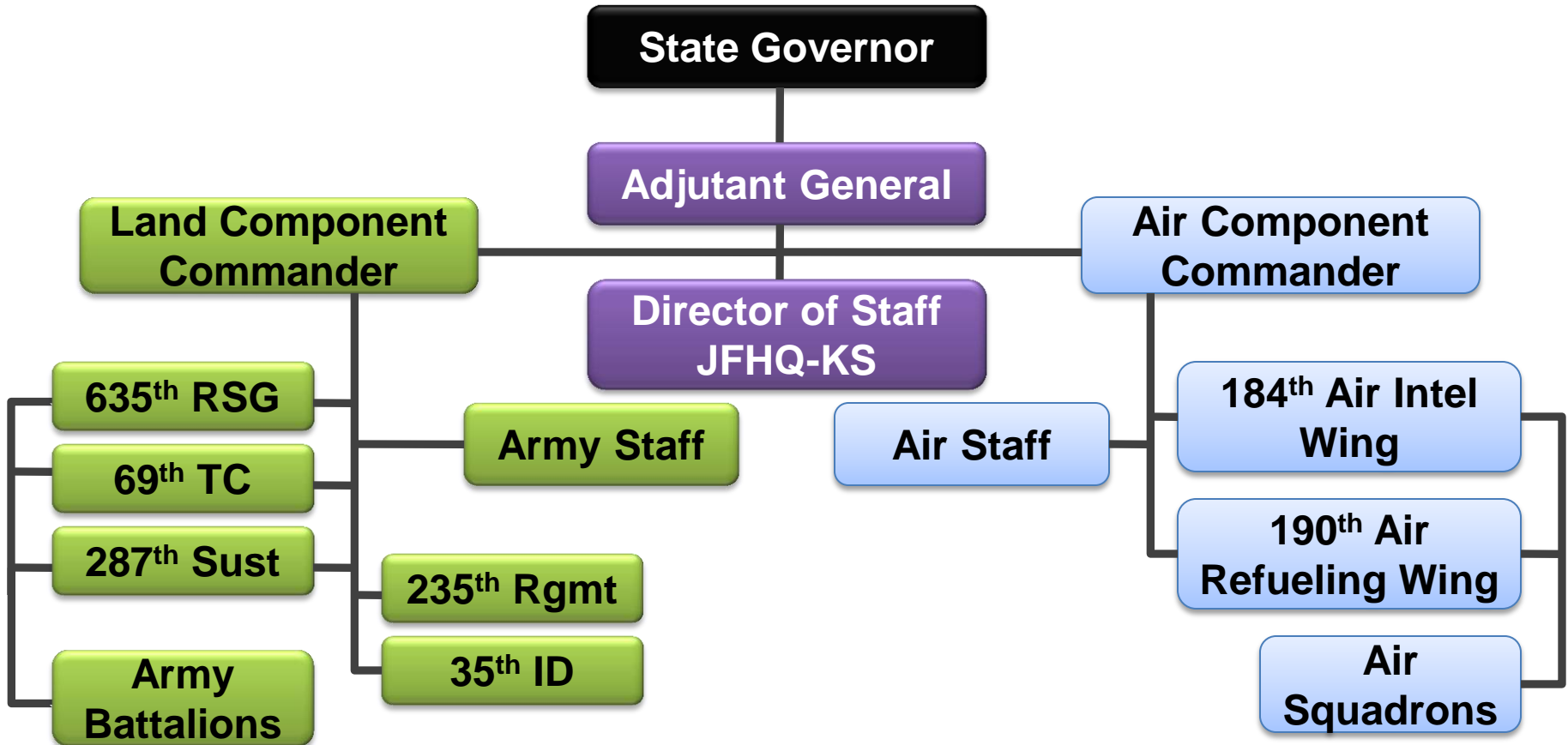
Kansas Adjutant General's Department

■ Current Focus

- Readiness of force/training**
 - Emergency response capabilities**
 - Financial challenges with Dept. of Defense budget cuts & reductions in force structure**
 - Mitigation of threats through intelligence exploitation**
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Kansas National Guard Hierarchy





A Versatile Force

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- **The most versatile DoD force available for Homeland Defense, Homeland Security and Defense Support to Civil Authority.**
 - ***Three* different legal statuses we can operate under:**
 - **Title 32**
 - Federal Service under control of the governor (authority granted by President)
 - Federal dollars
 - May still participate in law enforcement duties
 - **Title 10 (Federalized)**
 - Under control of President vis-a-vis Active Duty Military
 - Federal dollars
 - May NOT participate in law enforcement duties (Posse Comitatus)
 - **State Active Duty (SAD)**
 - Under control of the governor
 - State dollars
 - May participate in law enforcement duties
-



Spectrum of Domestic Operations

**State
Missions**



**Federal
Warfighting Missions**



Emergency Preparedness

Homeland Defense

Support to Civil Authorities/Civil Support Team

Counterdrug

Contingencies

Homeland Security Expeditionary Medical Support System

Disaster Response

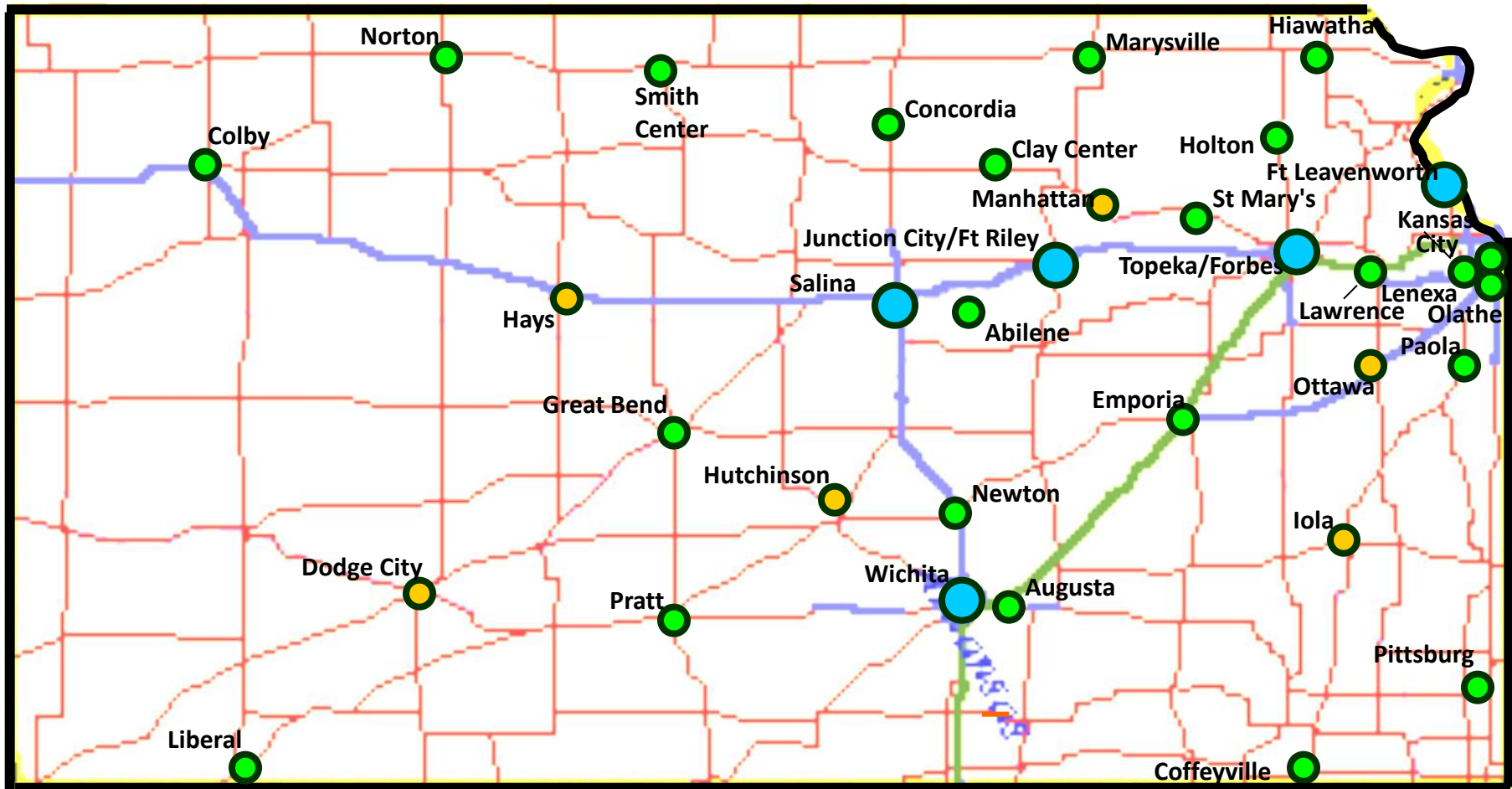


*The National Guard uses its unique
dual roles to operate across this entire spectrum
Key Reliance on Emergency Management Agreement Compacts*



Armory Facilities

5,091 Soldiers

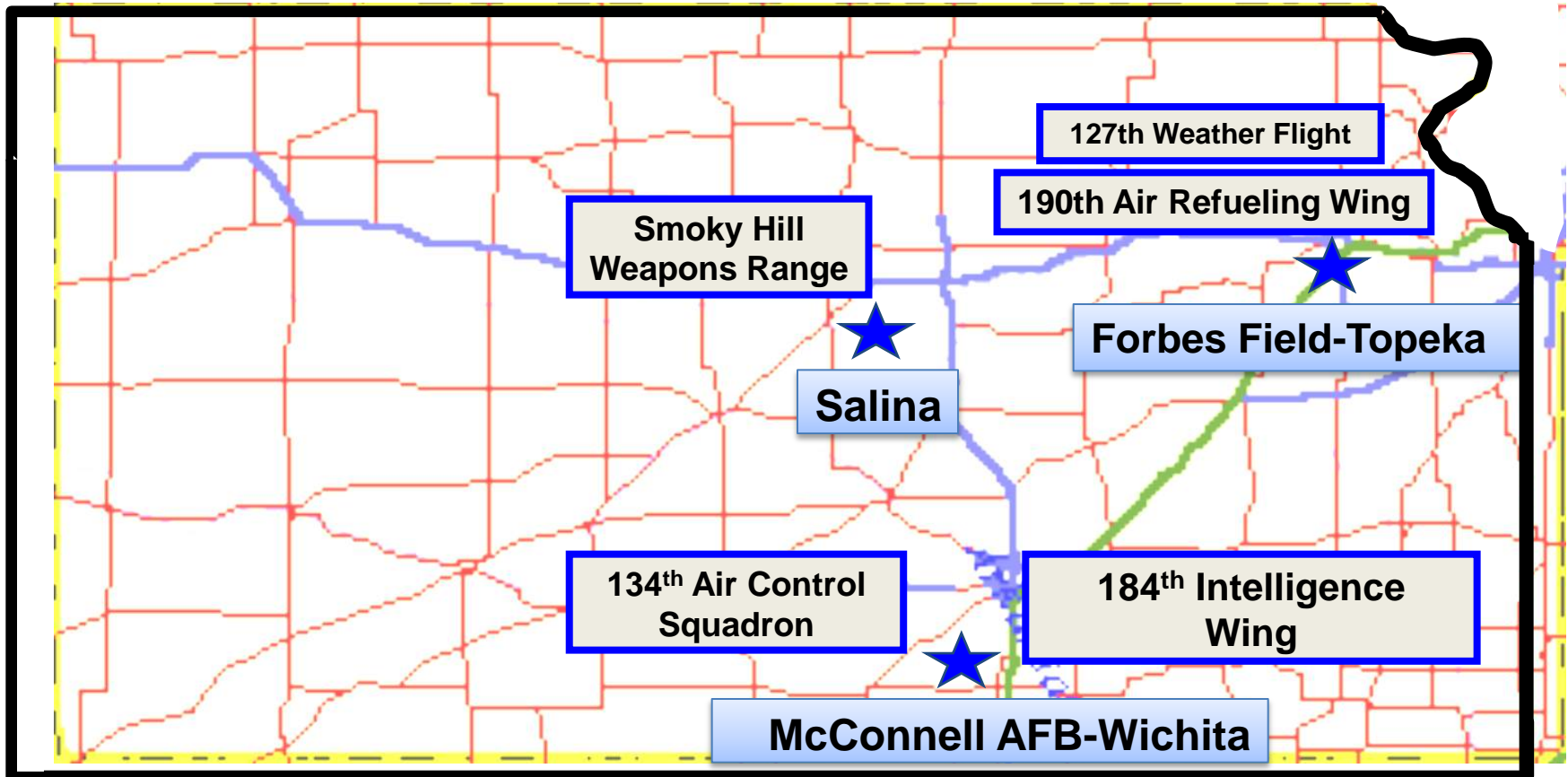


● Armory ● Armory & Maint Shop ● Multiple Facilities



Air Facilities

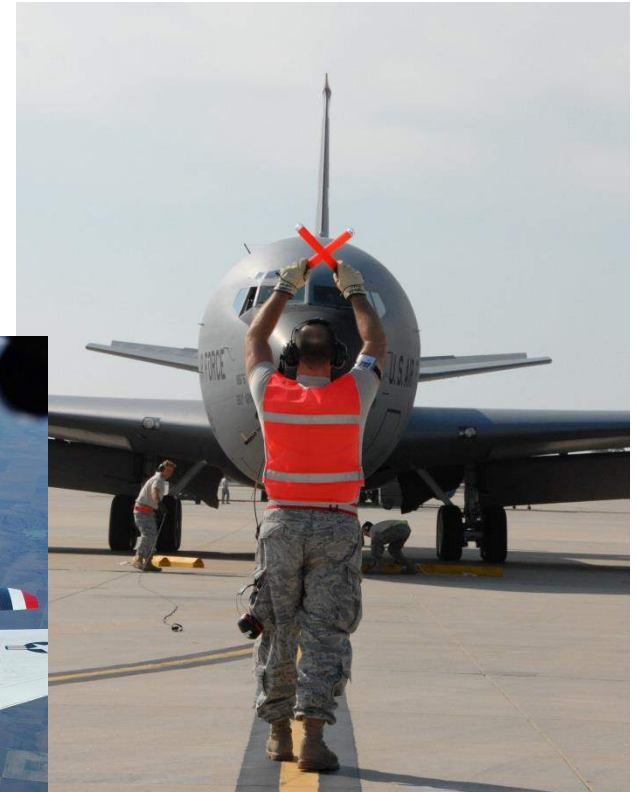
2,253 Airmen





190th Air Refueling Wing

Topeka





190th ARW

Key capabilities: EMEDS

Expeditionary Medical Support

- Used in Katrina and Greensburg
- Modular Design, Expandable
- Palletized for easy loading
- Four Sets





190th ARW

Key mission: CCATT

Critical Care Air Transport Teams

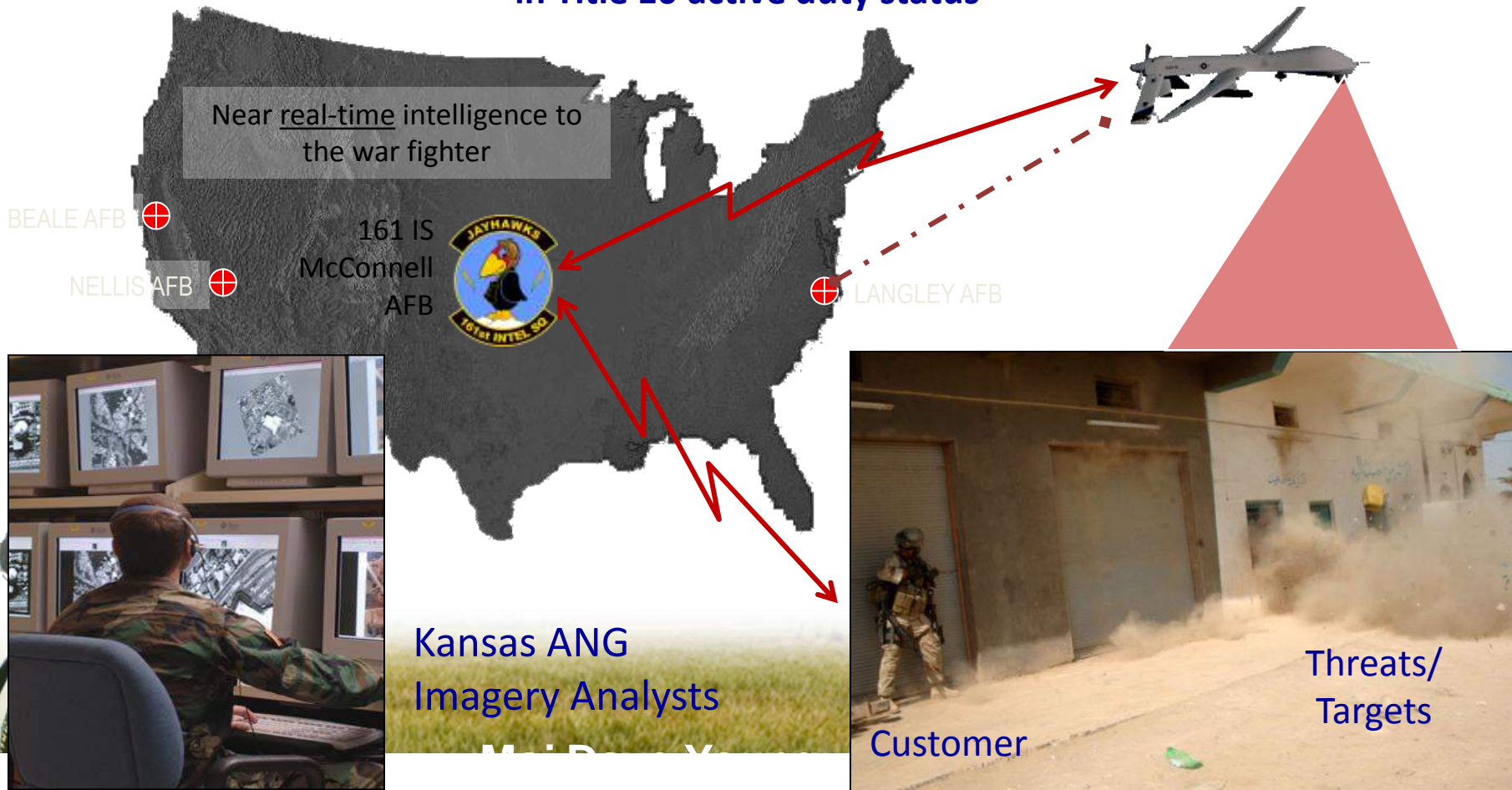
- Modifications to KC-135 Tanker
- 12 Ambulatory Passengers
- Cargo over, patients back
- Continuously improving operation





184th IW

161st Intelligence Squadron: Third year of in-garrison deployment of over 60 personnel in Title 10 active duty status





184th IW

284th Air Support Operations Squadron

- \$10M facility at Smoky Hill Weapons Range
- Advise and train Army commanders on the capabilities and employment of air power

Munitions Storage Area STAMP/STRAPP

- Largest Munitions Storage Area in ANG
- Provides fly-away War Reserve Munitions for the combatant commander





Training capabilities:

Salina

- Renewed on-going agreement with Fort Riley
- Joint exercises continue to grow
 - Vigilant Guard 2014
 - 5 states
 - KSNG
 - Over 6 federal entities
 - 8 county/local first responders
 - 9 state agencies
 - Prison Riot Simulation Exercise
 - KSNG & Dept. of Corrections joint endeavor
 - Aviation support based out of Salina
 - Airborne tactical response at the Ellsworth prison





Training capabilities: Salina

Key Elements:

- Billeting for 600 personnel
- Auditorium seating for 300
- Classroom facilities for 300
- Video Teleconference Suites
- Simulations Center
- HEAT trainer
- Geographically located next to the Salina Regional Airport
- Located within 10 minutes of Crisis City and Smoky Hill
- Small Arms Weapons Ranges

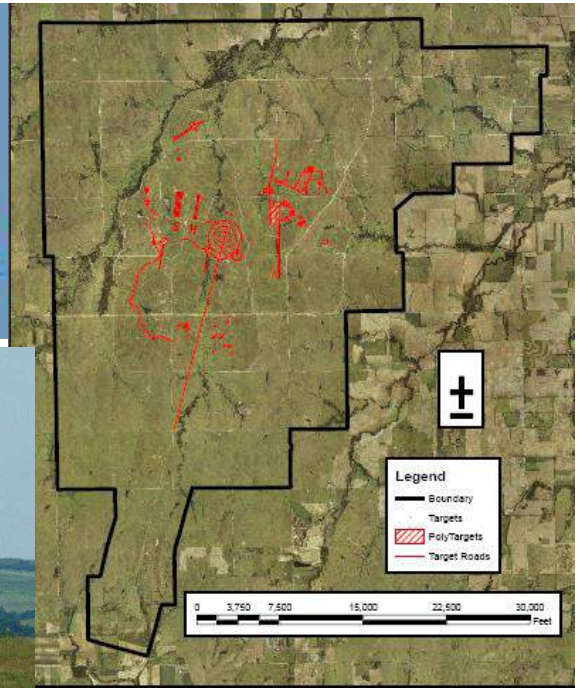




GPJTC

Smoky Hills Weapons Range

- ***Largest and Busiest Range in the Air National Guard***
- ***State of the Art Electronic Counter Measures***
- ***Joint Army-Air Training – Unmanned Aerial Systems***
- ***East part of range for Army Guard Training***





State Partnership Program

- **Partnership Established in 2003**
- **First Humanitarian mission in Armenia conducted by KSNG in 2014**
- **First Deputy Minister Davit Tonoyan and General Sergey Azaryan observed Vigilant Guard 2014 in Kansas**
- **Five focus areas in 2014:**
 - Development of
 - a deployable peace-keeping brigade
 - mobile medical capability
 - humanitarian demining
 - noncommissioned officer development
 - civil military emergency planning



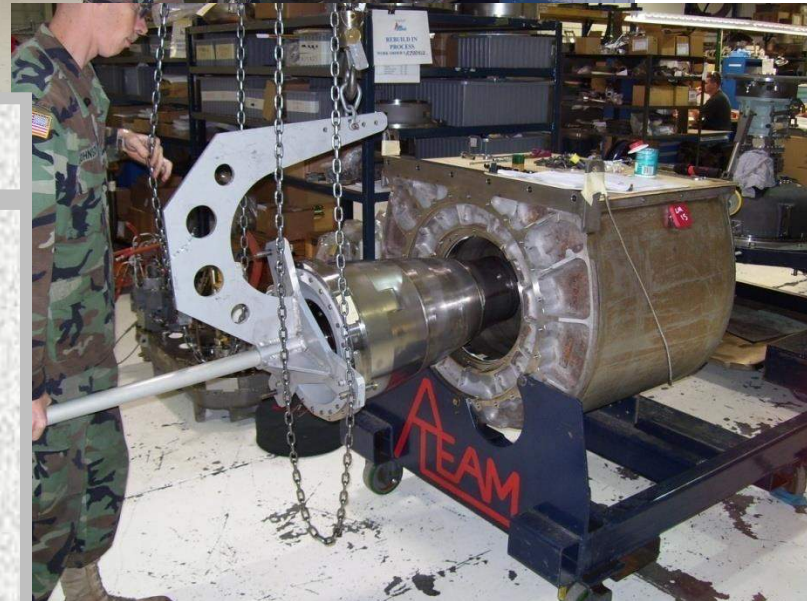


ATEAM



ATEAM

- 73 employees
- M-1 Tank Engines
- Cost Effective
- Warranty
- Saudi Engines
- 1000th Engine Built





Kansas Adjutant General's Department

Kansas Division of Emergency Management





KDEM

-
- **Mission:** Building sustainable capabilities across all phases of Emergency Management in Kansas through selfless service
 - **Goals:** Save lives, prevent injuries, protect property and the environment
 - **Key Preparedness Elements:**
 - Identify hazards
 - Mitigate those hazards you can
 - Plan for hazards you cannot mitigate
 - Train for roles in plan
 - Conduct exercises based on plan
 - Improve plan
-



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- National EMAP Certification
 - State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC)
 - Lead State Hazard Mitigation Team
 - Emergency Planning
 - Primary for State Plan
 - Technical assistance and approval of local plans
 - Train staff and other emergency personnel
 - Lead coordinating agency
 - Disaster assessment
 - Prepare request for Federal assistance
 - Public information and education
 - Resource management
 - Radiological and chemical consultation
 - Kansas Response Plan published in 2014
-



National Guard

10 Essential Capabilities

- Joint Force Headquarters for Command and Control
 - Civil Support Teams for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear detection
 - Communications
 - Ground Transportation
 - Security Forces
 - Logistics Capability
 - Maintenance Capability
 - Aviation
 - Engineering Assets
 - Medical Capability
-



KDEM

State Emergency Operations Center





KDEM

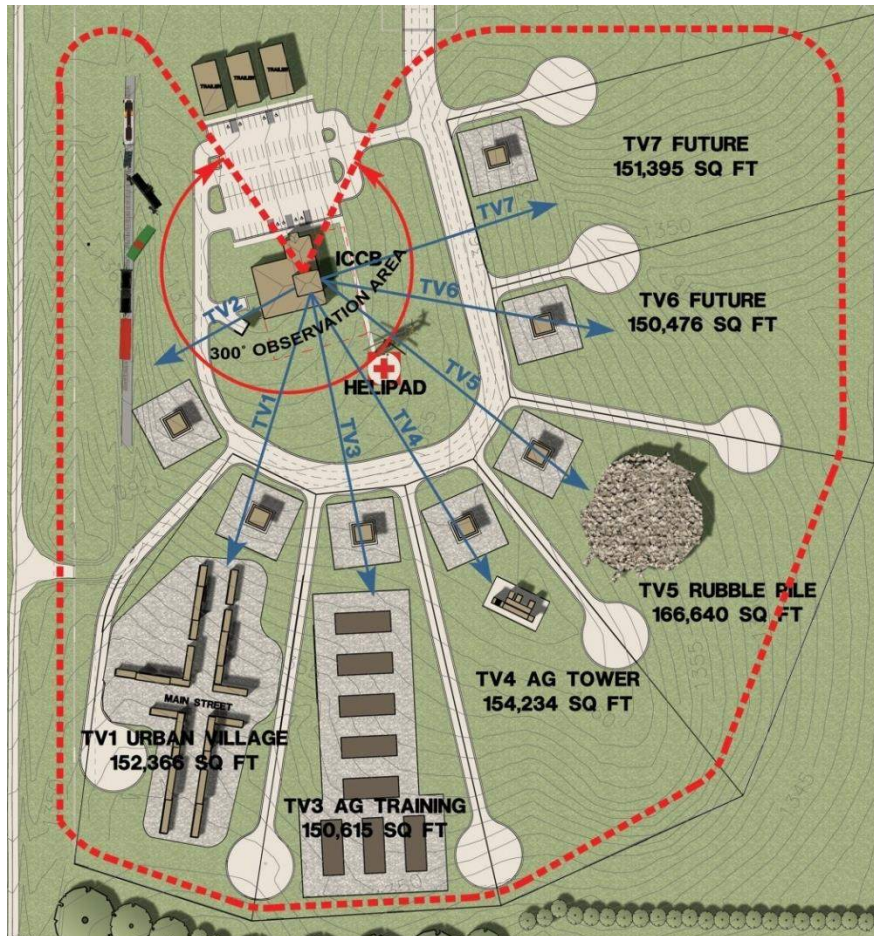
Mobile Command Center





KDEM

Crisis City-Salina



1. Railroad Training Venue
2. Urban Search & Rescue Training Props
3. Concrete Rubble Piles
4. Grain Bin Extraction
5. Farm & Ag Rescue Props
6. Incident Command Center
7. Urban Training Village
8. 5-Story Special Rescue Training Tower
9. Haz-Mat Training Props
10. Confined Space Rescue Training Props



KDEM Facilities

Salina, Crisis City

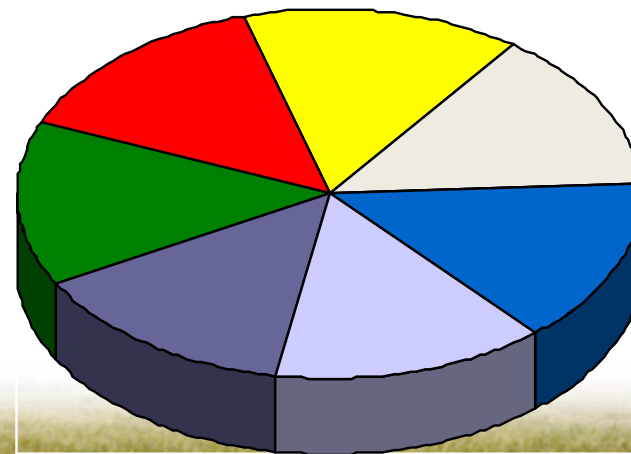
- Over 3,800 visitors
- Over 70,000 man hours of training accomplished
- Exercises allow first responders to address gaps, deficiencies and vulnerabilities in a safe, but realistic environment *prior* to a real event





Kansas Intelligence Fusion Center

- 1. The Kansas Fusion Center is a Multi-Discipline/Multi-Agency fusion center**
- 2. Conducts Strategic Analysis, not just information sharing, in support of Kansas policy/decision makers**
- 3. Located in a Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF)**
- 4. Access to national level intelligence (i.e., access to Classified intelligence)**



- Law Enforcement
- Military
- Medical/Health
- Agriculture
- Private Industry
- Transportation
- Other





Kansas Adjutant General's Department

Thank you!

