

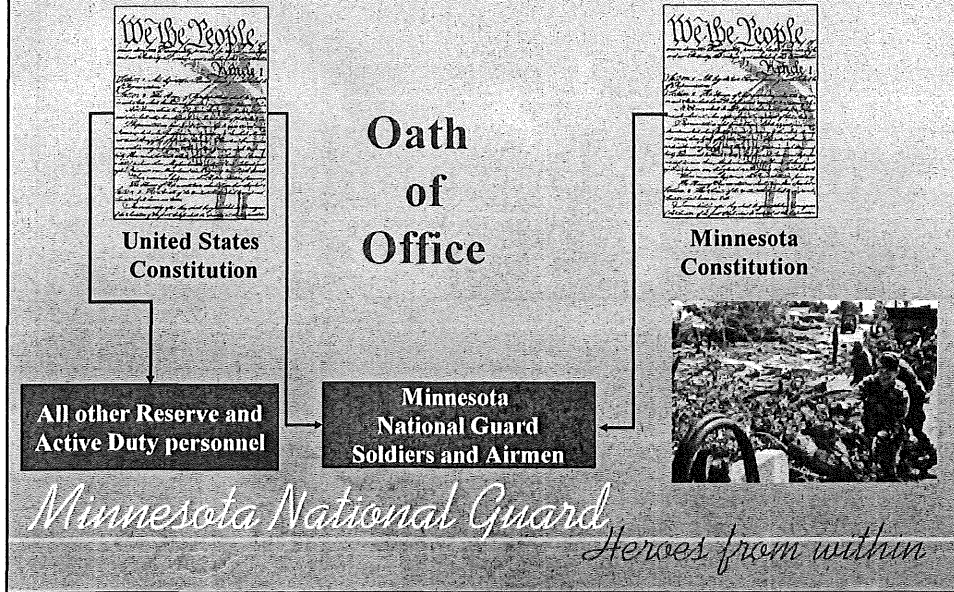


AGENDA

- **Why the National Guard is Different**
- **Minnesota National Guard Organization**
- **Federal Mission**
- **State Mission**
- **In the News**
- **2004 Sources of Funding**
- **FY 2005 State Budget**
- **FY 2006-2007 Initiatives**
- **Bonding Request**
- **Policy Initiatives**

Minnesota National Guard
Heroes from within

Why the Guard is Different



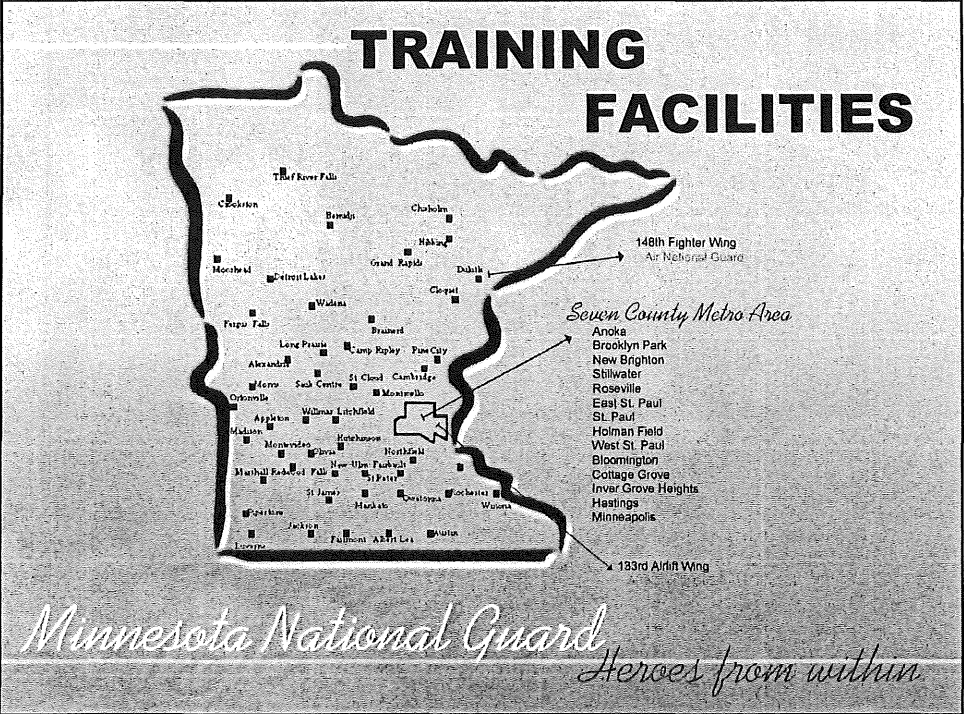
MINNESOTA NATIONAL GUARD ORGANIZATION

• AIR NATIONAL GUARD		
- 133rd Airlift Wing (Twin Cities)		1287
- 148th Fighter Wing (Duluth)		<u>1021</u>
	TOTAL	2308
• ARMY NATIONAL GUARD		
- 34th Infantry Division		9356
- Troop Command		381
- Camp Ripley		<u>321</u>
	TOTAL	10,058
• JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS		
- Army		435
- Air		26
	TOTAL	461

STATE TOTAL **12,827**

Minnesota National Guard

Heroes from within



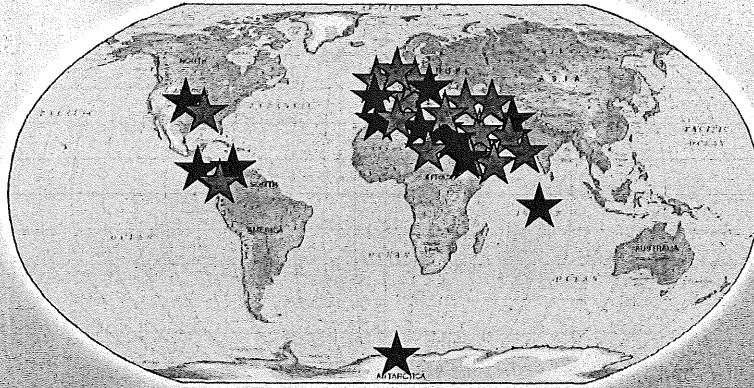
FEDERAL MISSION

<i>Then</i>	<i>Now</i>
<i>“Weekend Warrior”</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Integral part of active Army & Air Force</i> • <i>Represents over 40% of ground forces in Iraq</i> • <i>Engaged world-wide</i> • <i>Relevant force: serving communities, state and nation</i>

Minnesota National Guard
Heroes from within

MN GUARD SUPPORT AROUND THE GLOBE

30
Countries



- Afghanistan
- Antarctica
- Bosnia
- Bulgaria
- Canada
- Columbia
- Croatia
- Cuba
- Curacao
- El Salvador
- England
- France
- Germany
- Honduras
- Iraq
- Italy
- Israel
- Jordan
- Kosovo
- Kuwait
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Portugal
- Puerto Rico
- Qatar
- Saudi Arabia
- Sinai Peninsula
- Turkey
- UAE
- United States

Minnesota National Guard

Heroes from within

FEDERAL MISSION

Total Mobilization Since 9/11



2001	Air Guard	175
	Army Guard	200



2002	Air Guard	324
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2003	Air Guard	559
	Army Guard	3,089

2004	Air Guard	236	Grand Total
	Army Guard	1,371	
			5,954

Minnesota National Guard

Heroes from within

STATE MISSION

At the Direction of
the Governor,
Assist the Citizens
of Minnesota During
Emergencies



Minnesota National Guard

Heroes from within

STATE MISSION

<i>Year</i>	<i>Man Days</i>
2002	1,095

- **Provided**
 - Searched for lost hunter in Elbow Lake area
 - Wildfire suppression support in Brainerd & Cook County
 - Natural disaster relief in Roseau County

Minnesota National Guard

Heroes from within

STATE MISSION

<i>Year</i>	<i>Man Days</i>
2003	3,140

- **Provided**

- Searched for 20-year-old Josh Guimond
- Security for critical facilities in Dakota, Washington, Sherburne, Ramsey and Hennepin counties
- Dropped over 22,680 gallons of water to suppress a 3,000 acre wildfire in Swift county
- Natural disaster relief in Renville county after tornado

Minnesota National Guard

Heroes from within

STATE MISSION

<i>Year</i>	<i>Man Days</i>
2004	1,195

- **Provided**

- Ground & river searches for 22-year-old Dru Sjodin
- Nuclear Power Plant Security
- Airport Security
- Air fire suppression for the Louisburg Grade Wildfire, burned over 6,000 acres

Minnesota National Guard

Heroes from within

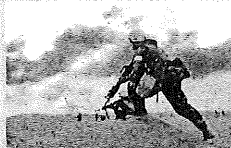
STATE MISSION

<i>Year</i>	<i>Man Days</i>
<i>2004 Continued</i>	<i>1,195</i>

- **Established**
 - 24/7 Joint Operations Center
 - Quick Reaction Force
 - Rapid Reaction Force

Minnesota National Guard
Heroes from within

IN THE NEWS...



- **Body armor**
- **Armored vehicles**
- **Length of deployments**
- **The "D" Word**

"I know a big issue in the media lately has been the armor vehicles. We have brand new M1114 Hummers and Armor Security Vehicles with full body armor. I am very impressed with the equipment that we are going to use."

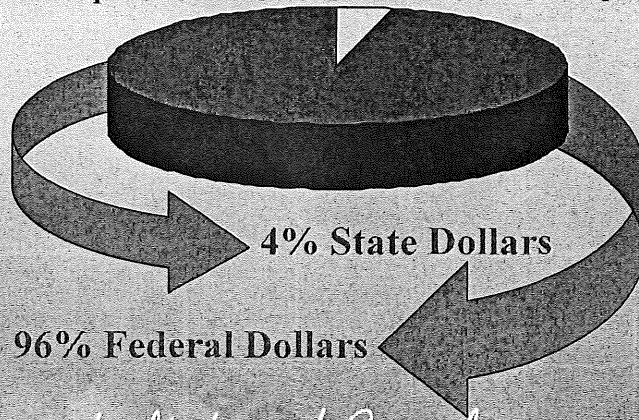
- CPT Aaron Krenz, Commander, Company A,
1-151st Field Artillery, Baghdad, Iraq; Dec. 2004

Minnesota National Guard
Heroes from within

2004 SOURCES OF FUNDING

\$12,458,000
State expenditures

\$305,206,511
Federal expenditures



Minnesota National Guard

Heroes from within

FY 2005 STATE BUDGET

	<u>BASE</u>
Maintenance of Training Facilities	\$5,590,000
General Support	\$1,757,000
Enlistment Incentives	\$4,857,000*
Emergency Services	\$75,000*

*(Pass Thru Dollars)

Minnesota National Guard

Heroes from within

WHAT YOU WILL SEE THIS SESSION...

Governor's Initiatives

- Funding for 100% tuition reimbursement
- Funding for reenlistment bonus
- State active duty income exemption
- Conformity with Federal Military Family Relief Act of 2003

Minnesota National Guard
Heroes from within

REQUESTED 2006-2007 BUDGET

	<u>FY 06</u>	<u>FY 07</u>
Maintenance of		
Training Facilities	\$5,590,000	\$5,590,000
General Support	\$1,757,000	\$1,757,000
Enlistment Incentives	\$10,207,000*	\$10,207,000*

*(Pass Thru Dollars)

Minnesota National Guard
Heroes from within

BONDING REQUEST

Asset Preservation **\$4,000,000**

Facility Life Safety **\$1,000,000**


Minnesota National Guard
Heroes from within

WHAT YOU WILL SEE THIS SESSION...

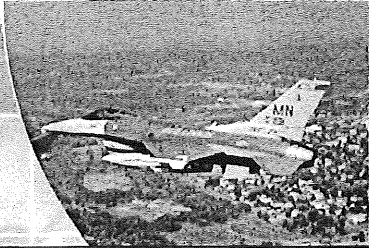
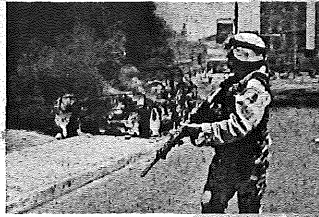
Agency Policy Initiatives

- “Carry-forward” authority for the “maintenance of military facilities” appropriation
- Armory board language
- Authority to rent facilities at Camp Ripley
- Retiree language (MN 190.06)

Minnesota National Guard
Heroes from within



What it's really all about...



State of Minnesota
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
VETERANS SERVICE BUILDING
ROOM 206C
20 WEST 12TH STREET
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55155-2006
(651) 296-2562

Department of Veterans Affairs Budget Overview

The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs was created in 1943 to meet the needs of Minnesota's veterans, their dependents, and their survivors by assisting them in securing those state and federal veterans benefits to which they are entitled. We accomplish this mission by providing leadership and direction to the veteran community as well as by offering a myriad of benefits and services.

Veterans Affairs is a small agency. Currently we have 34 employees who are divided between our claims office located in Fargo/Moorehead, our claims office located in Saint Paul, our state veterans cemetery located in Little Falls, and our headquarters office located in the Veteran's Service Building. These four offices serve the over 460,000 veterans of Minnesota, their dependents, and their survivors with the assistance of the 109 men and women who comprise the corps of County Veterans Service Officers as well as the representatives of Minnesota's congressionally chartered veterans' organizations.

The Department of Veterans Affairs Three Program Areas

The Department of Veterans Affairs budget recommendation for FY 2006-07 consists of \$8.076 million from the state's general fund. This amount reflects a 3% reduction from the department's FY 2004-05 budget and will be divided between the department's three programs areas as follows:

- 1 **The Benefits Program** accounts for 44% of the department's budget or \$3.564 million
- 2 **The Services Program** accounts for 22% of the budget or \$1.746 million
- 3 **The Operations Program** makes up 34% of the budget or \$2.766 million

1 The Benefits Program

The Benefits Program, which accounts for 44% of the budget, fills urgent needs in five ways:

- Financial assistance to needy veterans, their dependents, and their survivors in the form of direct emergency financial assistance
- Veterans preference enforcement
- Vocational rehabilitation services
- Educational assistance for veterans
- Homeless veterans program

2 The Services Program

This program accounts for 22% of the department's budget and provides help to veterans in three ways:

- Claims representation
- Fiduciary guardianship services
- Veterans outreach

3 The Operations Program

Our Operations Program accounts for 34% of the budget and maintains the department in ways that without which we could not function:

- The duties and responsibilities of the commissioners office
- The County Veterans Service Officer operational improvement grant process
- The County Veterans Service Officer certification process
- The Bronze Star Grave Marker program
- Information technology
- The State Veterans Cemetery
- Planning and fundraising for veterans memorials
- Military discharge
- The State Approving Agency
- The Recently Separated Veterans Program
- All budgeting, financial transactions, human resource management, affirmative action, MAPS, and SEMA4 transactions are also processed within this program

Department Change Items

- 1 The first change item is being brought forward on behalf of the Vietnam Veterans of America and is in the amount of \$5,000. This additional amount would raise their state appropriation to \$20,000 annually and is used to staff and maintain their claims offices.
- 2 The second change item is a Department of Veterans Affairs rent adjustment in the amount of \$45,000.

Additional Considerations

With the advent of the Global War on Terrorism comes an increase in the overall number of veterans—especially disabled veterans—returning home to Minnesota. We are working closely with Military Affairs and the County Veterans Service Officers in all 87 counties to ensure that upon returning home, these men and woman receive whatever assistance they require.

Any reduction to the department's budget will greatly diminish our ability to continue to meet the needs of our current and future veterans.



MINNESOTA DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

Hank Sadler – State Commander

Pete Phillippi – Service Officer
Supervisor

Dean Ascherman – State Adjutant

Handout #3

Agency Purpose

The purpose of the DAV: To provide support, encouragement and a better life for the noble men and women who became disabled while upholding world peace and freedom of the United States of America. The purpose and mission of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) is accomplished by:

- ◆ representing the interests of disabled veterans, their families, their widowed spouses, and their orphans before Congress, the White House, the Judicial Branch, as well as state and local government;
- ◆ providing free professional service to veterans and their families in obtaining benefits and services earned through military service provided by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other agencies of government;
- ◆ extending the DAV's mission of hope into the communities where these veterans and their families live through a network of the department and chapter outreach service programs; and
- ◆ providing a structure through which disabled veterans can express compassion for their fellow veterans through a variety of volunteer programs.

Core Functions

The DAV service officers serve as representatives for veterans and their families in obtaining benefits to which they are entitled. The DAV also provides informational seminars and publishes articles to bring about an awareness concerning potential entitlements to benefits and services available through the DAV and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The other major program is the **DAV Transportation Network Program** and in addition, the DAV provides direct assistance to veterans through its Older Veterans Assistance Program, its Thrift Store Gift Certificate program for the homeless and needy, and Veterans Service programs, all of which are of direct aid to veterans and their families in Minnesota.

Operations

The DAV has a Veteran National Service Office at Fort Snelling, staffed by four service officers and two secretaries. Services are rendered to individual veterans and are represented before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to obtain entitled benefits. The Minnesota DAV department office is located in the Veteran Service Building in St. Paul with three personnel and has two other offices located at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center (VAMC) in Minneapolis and the VAMC in St. Cloud coordinating our Transportation Network Program. All services are coordinated within the Department and rendered to individual veterans and families. We have nearly 20,000 members of the DAV in 33 Chapters and 24 Auxiliary units across the State of MN.

Budget

The DAV receives a grant from the General Fund and uses it to benefit veterans primarily through the agency's transportation program. In the FY 2003-04 biennium, base funding for this grant was \$13,000 per year, and represented less than 3% of the DAV's total budget. In the FY 2003, DAV allocated 86.4% of all funds to veteran programs. In our request for this biennium we have requested \$40,000 which is vital to our organization as we address the growing needs of a significantly growing number of aged MN veterans/families and newly disabled veterans/families returning from war zones.

At A Glance

- ◆ There are approximately 420,000 veterans in Minnesota and 39,140 disabled veterans.
- ◆ In FY 2004, DAV representation before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs resulted in over \$65 million in new benefits to Minnesota veterans.
Over 5,100 MN Veterans received new benefits. Over 1,600 veterans had their claims maintained (\$23 Million) and 1,500 veterans had claims increased through our MN DAV Service Officers representation (\$22 Million). Overall, this is over 10% increase in compensation year to year.
- ◆ In FY 2004, the DAV of MN Transportation Network provided over 29,000 individual rides to VA medical appointments, comprising over 1.2 million miles traveled and 80,000 volunteer hrs.
- ◆ Volunteer efforts by DAV members and their families in our voluntary service programs resulted in over 13,000 volunteer hours donated to veteran service programs in MN.
- ◆ Over 500 homeless/needy veterans were assisted with Thrift Store gift certificates for clothing needs.
- ◆ MN DAV provided TV programming to over 400 TVs in the five MN Veterans Homes. These TVs were donated by DAV in recent years.

Contact

Disabled American Veterans
Veterans Service Building, 3rd Floor

20 West 12th Street
St. Paul, Minnesota 55155

Department Adjutant, Dean Ascheman (651) 291-1212

EXTENDING OUR SUPPORT AND REACH INITIATIVES IN 2003/2004 AND BEYOND

In the year 2003/2004 the Disabled American Veterans initiated a plan to :

➤ Significantly increase our MN DAV Transportation Program which transports veterans in need of transportation to and from medical appointments at the St. Cloud and Minneapolis VA Medical Centers. This extended service included the hiring of additional coordinators, extended office hours, linkages to our DAV Service Office and Service Officers (see below) ,and significant recruitment of volunteer drivers. We also expanded the radius of our service to far out suburbs and enhanced the integration of our DAV St. Cloud /Minneapolis metro programs with the MN County Veteran Transportation program. We have integrated common tasks so as to allow the DAV coordinators to provide some needed support to the County program. We are also purchasing a new DAV Van to provide support to the St. Cloud VAMC. As a result of this investment of time and money we have significantly improved the number of miles of our volunteer drivers, number of veteran patients transported and the number of volunteer drivers. In addition, we have many older and disabled veterans who rely on family and friends for transportation who have now found a safe, reliable, convenient and needed ride to medical care. The benefits of this service is enormous. The cost of this program to the DAV of MN is in excess of \$50,000. The new Van will cost our Department over \$10,000, even though we are receiving some donations from other VSOs.

➤ Significantly expand the extend the reach and effectiveness of our service officers headquartered at Ft. Snelling VA Regional Office... In order to meet the needs of our aging and newly disabled veterans in need of assistance from our DAV Service Officers we have established a very aggressive outreach program where we have integrated the services of our Transportation Office with the Service Office and Service Officers through the establishment of office hours in the VA Medical Centers in Minneapolis and St. Cloud one day a week. This investment of over 800 hours a year is allowing our service officers to be available to the thousands of veterans being transported into our VA medical facilities each and every day. It also allows for them to visit the hospitalized veterans who may be in need of the support of our Service Officers. In addition, our Service Office has established a program to reach out to each and every one of our 34 DAV / DAVA Chapters and Units and their membership through planned and coordinated Chapter visits. This allows local Chapters to host a setting for our NSOs to visit the Statewide rural and metro communities. This outreach program requires an additional investment of time (approx 300 hrs/yr), travel (approx 11,000 miles/yr), and lodging (over 20 overnight stays/yr).

In addition to the outreach programs above our Service Officers spend over 100 hours/year participating in the DAV mobile van programs where DAV Service vans visit Statewide communities. This investment of time totals 20 days/yr. They are also on the an active and intimate part of the CVSO (County Veterans Service Officers) meetings held twice a year (including admin/secretaries meeting). This networking is key to the successful integration of the County service officers program with the DAV.

In addition to the above, we have invested another 8 days of Service Officer time in ensuring our service officers are integrated and active in our DAV Midwinter Conferences in Washington DC. This has allowed them to assist the DAV legislative team in bringing the disabled veterans issues to our Nations legislators first hand.

The above investment of necessary and very effective outreach costs MN DAV approximately \$32,000/year in supplemental salary, travel/accommodations and equipment and services.

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT BUDGET DIVISION

TESTIFIERS PLEASE SIGN

Date Tuesday, Feb 8, 2005

NAME	ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS	PHONE
THORNTON PALMER	MILITARY AFFAIRS	20 W 127TH ST, ST PAUL - 55155	282-4628
LARRY STELLATO	Mil Affairs	20 W 127th St	268-8924
Mike Pytko	MDVA	USB	6-2783
Tom Hanson	UFW	1 Federal Dr - St. Paul	(612) 970-5669
Jerry Kysor	Vietnam Veterans	Vet Service Bldg # 121 12th St ST Paul 55105	651 224 6045
LARRY GERMAN	Military Order of the Purple Heart	Vet Service Bldg #508-A St Paul MN 55155	651-227-4456
AL HOLTAN	" "	" " " "	"
DAVE SROCK	" "	1 Federal Drive St. Paul Rm 183A 55111	612-970-5669
DEAN ASCHEMAN	DAV	STATE VETERANS SVC BLDG - 28936 West Lake Dr	612 691-1212
Hank Saole	DAV	Madison Lake mn 56063	(507) 931-9331
PETE PHILLIP	DAV	STATE VETS BLD	651-291-1212