



FACT SHEET

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GROUND-BASED MIDCOURSE DEFENSE

Activated in 2003, the 100th Missile Defense Brigade is the U.S. military's only missile defense brigade, and the only unit tasked with defending the homeland against intercontinental ballistic missile attacks. Using a sophisticated fire control system supported by sea, land and space-based sensors, and a missile-launched Exo-Atmospheric Kill Vehicle, Soldiers can track, intercept and destroy an enemy warhead in its mid-course phase of flight, outside the Earth's atmosphere.

100TH MDB HEADQUARTERS

Located in Colorado Springs, the 100th MDB is a multi-component headquarters comprising primarily Colorado Army National Guard Soldiers, but also includes a small number of active-duty Army Soldiers. The 100th falls under three separate chains of command: administratively, as a part of the Colorado Army National Guard; operationally, as part of the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command Army Forces Strategic Command, while it has a supporting relationship to its combatant command, U.S. Northern Command.

THE MISSILE DEFENSE ELEMENT



FTG-15 was a successful intercept of an ICBM-class target May 30, 2017.



Located at Schriever Air Force Base in Colorado, the MDE consists of certified missile defense crews, who are responsible monitoring Ballistic Missile Defense sensors that detect incoming missiles and, on order, fire ground-based interceptors to destroy the hostile missile. Operationally the MDE has oversight of the subordinate Fire Direction Center of the 49th Missile Defense Battalion at Fort Greely, Alaska.



THE 49TH MISSILE DEFENSE BATTALION

Located at Fort Greely, Alaska, this battalion consists of approximately 200 Alaska Army National Guard Soldiers. Company A, 49th Military Police, is responsible for securing the Missile Defense Complex where the ground-based interceptors are emplaced underground.



THE FIRE DIRECTION CENTER

Also located at Fort Greely, this element is nearly identical in composition and function to the MDE at Schriever.



The key difference is that the FDC is responsible for the tactical-level execution of the Ground-based Midcourse Defense mission with the MDE providing guidance and oversight during the execution of that mission.

DETACHMENT 1

The detachment is located at Vandenberg Air Force Base, California. This detachment is responsible for operating GMD launch facilities and support equipment in direct support of the MDE and FDC's missions. All Soldiers of the unit are members of the California Army National Guard.

AN/TPY-2 RADAR BATTERIES

The 100th provides limited continental United States transition and training oversight to active-component officers and Soldiers undergoing sensor manager and RADAR operator training on the AN/TPY-2 X-band RADAR system prior to their assignment and deployment to forward-based ballistic missile defense batteries across the globe.

FORT DRUM SECURITY DETACHMENT

The 100th MDB provides operational, administrative and logistical oversight and support to a small detachment of active-component leadership and Department of the Army security guards who provide constant security to the In-flight Interceptor Communication System Data Terminal located at Fort Drum, New York.

