



SBMDF

Space and Ballistic Missile Defense Forces

- 1st Space Brigade
- 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense)



Summary

- Supports warfighters with existing and emerging space capabilities.
- Operators of the Ground-based Midcourse missile defense capability for homeland defense against incoming missiles.
- Works with Army Space Operations Officers (FA 40s) assigned to maneuver elements to assist commanders in the effective use of Space capabilities and products.

The 1st Space Brigade integrates space-based capabilities with the Army's maneuver forces and elements of the 100th Missile Defense Brigade operate the Ground-based Midcourse Defense capability at Fort Greely, Alaska.

The U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (SMDC) provides command and control to the 1st Space Brigade and the 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense). SMDC also provides secure, space-based Blue Force Tracking and communications planning through Regional Satellite Communications (SATCOM) Support Centers and the Spectral Operations Resource Center to Army forces and, upon request, to joint warfighters.

Space Operations

Since the first Gulf War, space Soldiers have supported every major contingency operation with long haul communications, satellite imagery, and early warning of missile launches.

Space Soldiers are spread around the globe providing flexible, reliable, and pinpoint support to warfighters and homeland defense against missile attack.

Space

1st Space Brigade's 1st Satellite Control (SATCON) Battalion operates and manages the Defense Satellite Communications System (DSCS) Operations Centers. This system provides assured communications for command and control, critical intelligence, video teleconferences, and logistics to U.S. warfighting forces – anywhere, anytime.

The battalion manages, plans, and controls payloads to assure the reliability of the communications they provide to tactical and strategic warfighters. The battalion also operates and maintains five companies that operate DSCS control facilities located around the world.

1st Space Battalion's support to the Army, joint, and coalition warfighter spans the globe.

- The Army Space Support Company fields Army Space Support Teams (ARSST) to provide capabilities, expertise, and products as the warfighter plans and executes the full spectrum of military operations. The teams work closely with the Army's Space Operations Officers (FA 40s) assigned to supported units. This partnership provides the warfighter with the best possible space support.
- The Theater Missile Warning Company operates Joint Tactical Ground Stations (JTAGS) providing early warning of missile launches worldwide to deployed U.S. forces. The five JTAGS systems are operated by joint Army/Navy crews and are a part of U.S. Strategic Command's (STRATCOM) Tactical Event System (TES).

193rd Space Battalion: This Colorado Army National Guard battalion provides space-based support to designated ground forces commanders in support of Army operations. This battalion demonstrates that citizen-Soldiers can bring space capabilities to the Army and leverages the expertise and experience in space that these citizen-Soldiers gain in their civilian jobs.

Missile Defense

The 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense), Colorado Army National Guard, provides oversight of the Soldiers trained to operate the nation's limited missile defense capability. The brigade comes under the overall direction of the responsible combatant commander during an operational mission.

The 49th Missile Defense Battalion, Alaska Army National Guard, provides physical security and defense of the interceptor site as well as operators who are trained to fire the missiles. The Soldiers who operate and maintain the missiles all undergo a strenuous course of education and training before being available for assignment to the missile site at Fort Greely, Alaska.

Working with STRATCOM, the Missile Defense Agency, the Army National Guard, and many others, SMDC is helping to develop a missile defense capability. As the user and operator of the Ground-based Midcourse Defense capability, SMDC is contributing to ongoing developmental efforts in planning and user refinements and establishing the tactics, techniques, and procedures with which it will be operated.



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