



# **The State Partnership Program**

**Senior Leader Quotes**

**January – March 2015**

# Senior Leaders Praise SPP



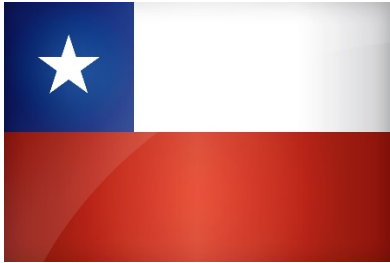
**Army South Commander MG Joseph P. DiSalvo, SOUTHCOM Adjutant General Conference 29 January 2015:**

- “You all in your respective states do a good job with your partner countries. For us at the Army South and SOUTHCOM levels to have visibility into that is very important.”



**MG DiSalvo**

# Senior Leaders Praise SPP



**General of Air Guillermo Leon Leon,**  
Commander, Colombian Air Force 20  
February 2015:

- In reference to the South Carolina National Guard-Colombia Relampago F-16 air exercise, “We were happy with the results and it was an inspiration for our pilots.”



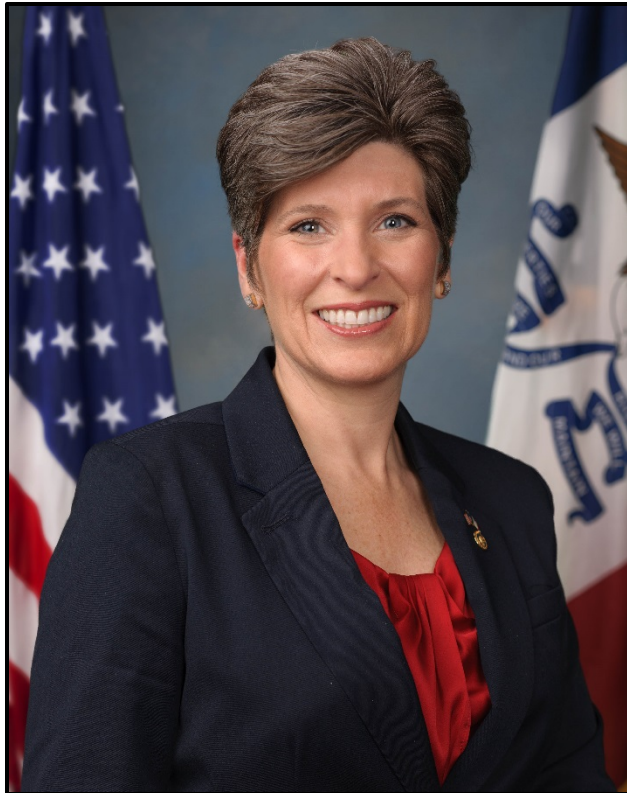
**General of Air Leon Leon**

# Senior Leaders Praise SPP



**Senator Joni Ernst, (R) Iowa, Senate Armed Forces Committee Hearing, 12 March 2015:**

- “I do feel that this [SPP] is a very important program for many of our National Guards.”



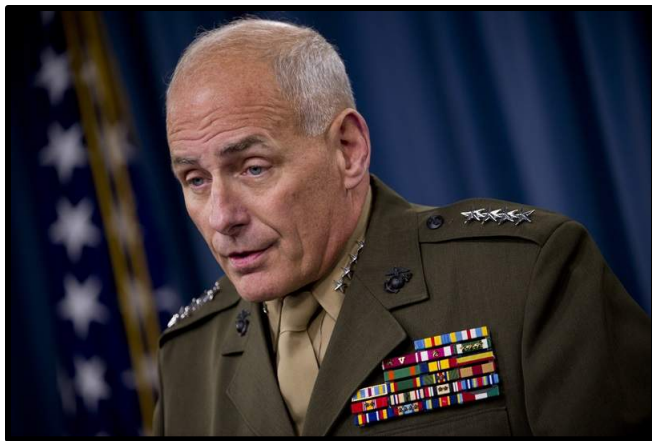
**Senator Ernst**

# Senior Leaders Praise SPP



## GEN John K. Kelly, USSOUTHCOM Commander, Senate Armed Forces Committee Hearing, 12 March 2015:

- “The Partnership Program is very, very high impact and very, very low cost. What I have seen over my years working with other countries in [SOUTHCOM] and the Central Command area among the Arab countries, it’s our example that catches their attention... over time, that is what changes these countries for the better.”



GEN Kelly



# Senior Leaders Praise SPP



**GEN Rodriguez**

**GEN David M. Rodriguez,**  
**Commander USAFRICOM, Senate**  
**Armed Forces Committee Testimony,**  
**26 March 2015:**

- “The National Guard Bureau’s State Partnership Program provides a unique and vital mechanism for sustaining the long-term engagement critical to building relationships and capacity.”

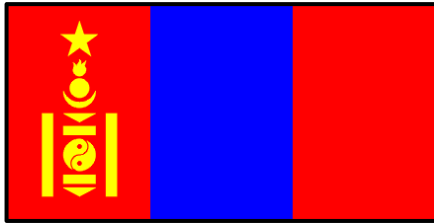
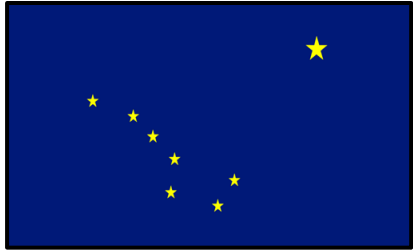


# **The State Partnership Program**

## **Senior Leader Quotes**

### **April – June 2015**

# Senior Leaders Praise SPP



**Ambassador Campbell**

**Ambassador Piper Anne Wind Campbell, US Ambassador to Mongolia, 29 April 2015:**

- “The Alaska-Mongolia partnership works. Alaska and Mongolia share many similarities such as an Arctic climate, similar size, limited urban centers, an isolated rural population and a vast, but not easily accessible, mineral wealth. These similarities allow Alaskans and Mongolians to understand each other better and greatly contributed to the success of the relationship.”



# Senior Leaders Praise SPP



## Senator Chris Coons, (D) Delaware, 30 April 2015:



**Senator Coons**

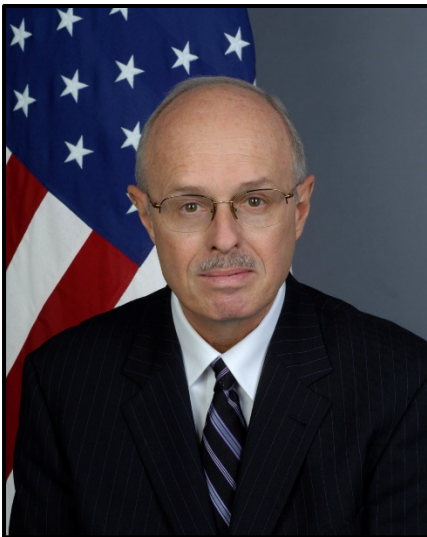
- “For more than 20 years [SPP] has advanced American interests around the world, strengthened our national security, and supported the military capacity of our allies. Aside from building critical and durable relationships with important allies, the SPP serves as a prime example of America’s commitment to peace and good government around the world... I have seen the benefits of this program firsthand on many of my trips abroad.”

# Senior Leaders Praise SPP



## Ambassador Robert Whitehead, US Ambassador to Togo, 8 May 2015:

- “Any partnership is better when both sides understand each other, and this [partnership] has created a lot of great personal relationships. This is also the first time we’ve established a single U.S. partnership [North Dakota] with three adjoining countries; coordinating actions between all three nations will increase cooperation and contribute to security and understanding between all partners.”



**Ambassador Whitehead**

# Senior Leaders Praise SPP



## Deputy Chief of Mission Todd Whatley, US Embassy Benin, 8 May 2015:

- “These partnerships [SPP] are important for increasing understanding and cooperation between nations. And they are especially important when you consider the threats and challenges that we all face with international terrorism, the rapid spread of infectious diseases, and emergency response and preparedness. Thank you North Dakota for your role in these hosting this important partnership event.”



DCM Whatley

# Senior Leaders Praise SPP



## Ambassador Pamela A. White, US Ambassador to Haiti, 13 May 2015:

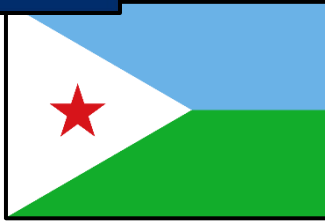
- “I have great hope that the bond between Louisiana and Haiti will be strengthened. The work that the National Guard has done has been extremely helpful to Haiti. The Youth Challenge Program is just remarkable. We’re hoping that we can use this example to start something for youth in Haiti, and if we can do half of what you do here, it would be fabulous.” “DOD came down to Haiti and built some Emergency Operation Centers, and thankfully the Louisiana National Guard is helping us operationalize them.”



**Ambassador White**



# Senior Leaders Praise SPP



**Ambassador Kelly**

## Ambassador Thomas Kelly, US

Ambassador to Djibouti, 4 June 2015:

- "The U.S. National Guard personnel bring many benefits to the strategic partnership between our two countries. As citizen-soldiers, they use their military and civilian experiences to identify solutions and cooperate on our many shared initiatives."

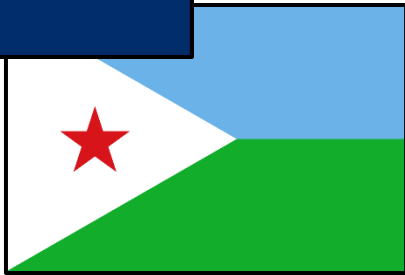


# Senior Leaders Praise SPP



## Major General Zakaria Cheik Ibrahim, Djiboutian Armed Forces Chief of Defense, 4 June 2015:

"Ten African countries already benefit from this program, and we are honored to be the eleventh African country and the first to benefit from East Africa. Your presence among us today demonstrates the importance accorded by the U.S. to the strengthening of the cooperation between the U.S. military and the Djiboutian Defense and Security Forces as well as our two friendly peoples. I am convinced that we could mutually benefit from this partnership... Long live the Djibouti-American cooperation."



**Maj Gen Ibrahim**