

National Guard Reaction Force (NGRF)

What is it?

A critical element in the first line of counter-terrorism defense, the National Guard Reaction Force (NGRF) provides every state with a ready combat arms force capable of augmenting and complementing civilian assets during domestic homeland security incidents. NGRF teams provide site security with presence patrols and other displays of force, establish roadblocks and checkpoints, and assist civil authorities in controlling civil disturbances.

An NGRF delivers 75 to 125 personnel (a company-size element) within 8 hours of the Governor's or President's request. Each state and territory can deliver a follow-on force of up to 375 personnel (a battalion-size element) within 24 hours. This includes providing force protection and security for WMD Civil Support Teams and CBRNE Enhanced Response Force Package (CERFP) teams.

The NGRF is defined as a trained and ready force able to provide Governors or combatant commanders with quick reaction and rapid response capabilities in each state or territory. The NGRFs are capable of responding and assisting in the protection of critical infrastructure, other state or national assets, and any other missions as directed to promote stability and security in the state, territory, or nation. The NGRF protects important infrastructure and key assets, while promoting stability and security on a local or national level.

What has the National Guard done?

In FY10, states and territories used their NGRFs to support numerous events and emergencies. Typical missions have included providing site security; establishing roadblocks, checkpoints, or both; assisting civil authorities in controlling civil disturbances; protecting Department of Defense-selected critical infrastructure, and providing a critical first line of defense in counter-terrorism. Most recently the Gulf States providing security support for the Deep Water Horizon oil spill during the Spring/Summer timeframe of 2010.

What continued efforts does the program have planned for the future?

The National Guard plans to continue to provide every state a ready combat arms force operating in a state active duty or Title 32 status. The NGRF is designed for quick response on a rotating basis between units under the command and control of the governor of their home state. Each NGRF must be capable of performing the mission essential tasks of assembling forces, deploying, communicating, securing a site, and supporting civil authorities. Each NGRF must be aware of the National Response Framework (NRF) and train according to the three phases of the NRF: prepare, respond, and recover. Preparations include training in the theories and uses of nonlethal weapons such as malodorants, irritants, and taser guns, as well as the established rules of the use of force (RUF). Response involves supporting state or local law enforcement agencies specified in the plan or execution order. Recovery is the process of returning a community to the status quo: knowing when to terminate support; in other words, knowing when to "fold up" the tents and when to continue "holding on" to the new normal with the survivors. The NGRFs may be used by the States in support of the Homeland Response Forces (HRF) to assist in

establishing local area security, providing force protection, and providing crowd/casualty control in response to disaster or terrorist attacks.

Why is this important to the National Guard?

Reaction Forces provide every state with a ready combat arms force capable of delivering, at the request of the Governor or President, an initial force package of personnel who can arrive on scene within four to eight hours. A follow-on force can arrive within 24 to 36 hours at the request of the Governor. NGRFs are designed to respond to an incident ahead of federal assets with the capability of being logistically self-sustaining for up to 48 hours. Formed from current units and personnel resources, the NGRFs are organized as temporary task forces and perform their missions primarily under the command and control of the governors of their home states.

Click on the following link for additional information:

<http://www.ng.mil/default.aspx>