



Joint Force Headquarters- New York



VIGILANT GUARD

Community Mission Brief
1-6 November 2009



Purpose of the Meeting



To inform the residents of the City of Tonawanda about Exercise Vigilant Guard and exercise activities that will take place in and around the city during the period of 1-6 November 2009.



Agenda



- **Introduction**
- **Exercise Overview**
- **Exercise Scenario**
- **Mission Statement**
- **Exercise concept**
- **Daily Schedule around Spaulding Site**
- **Participating Civil Authorities**
- **Questions**



Vigilant Guard Defined



Vigilant Guard is...

- A national exercise program sponsored by the National Guard Bureau and United States Northern Command
- Provides a training opportunity for National Guard forces to practice emergency response operations
- Provides an opportunity to the National Guard to build relationships with local, state, regional and federal partners against a variety of different homeland security threats, including natural disasters and terrorist attack
- Includes National Guard troops from several states along with local, state, county and city emergency response units and agencies.
- Provides a realistic training opportunity for civilian and military officials to work together and coordinate in order to protect lives and property



Exercise Overview



Total Military Players: 1371

Joint Operations Areas:

- **Capital District (10%)**

- Functional Exercise (30 Oct - 6 Nov):
- Command Post Exercise



- **Buffalo (70%)**

- Full-Scale Exercise 2-5 Nov involving the movement, staging and sustainment of troops, deployment of search and rescue, hazardous materials and security teams, medical support and evacuation teams, local emergency operations and command and control centers and more



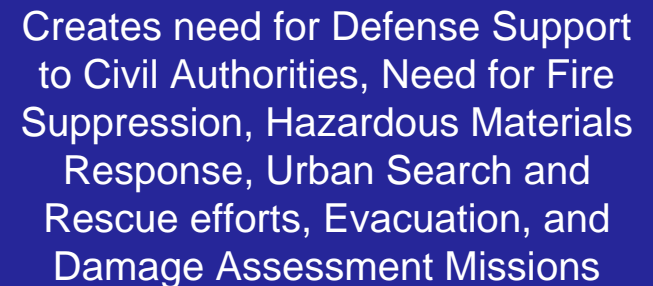
- **New York City (20%)**

- Full-Scale Exercise 2-5 Nov involving security and hazardous materials response teams and more





Thousands are displaced after their homes suffer structural damage. Many require immediate medical attention and shelter.





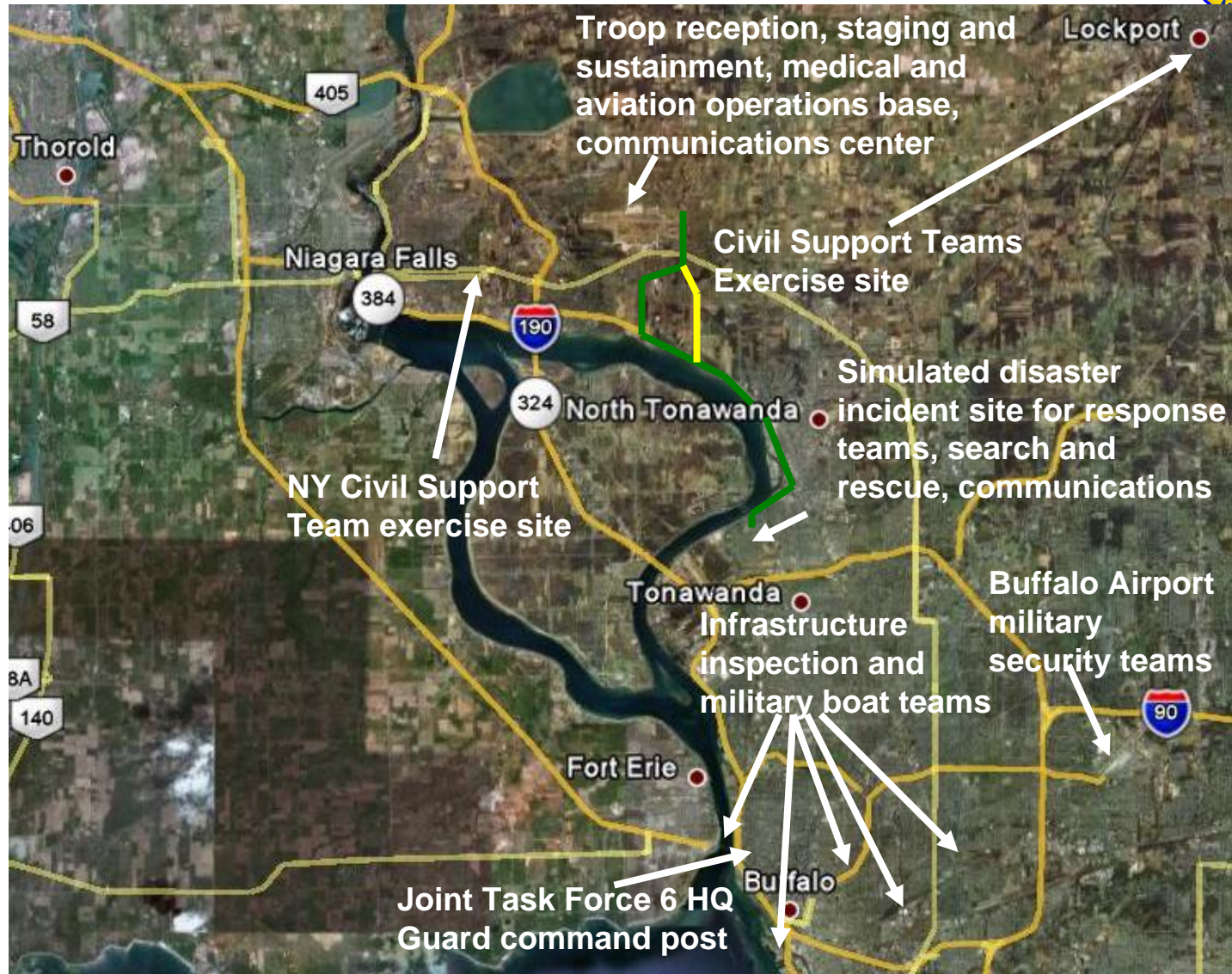
Mission Statement



On 1-6 November 2009, New York Military Forces conduct Domestic Operations, in the vicinities of Buffalo and NYC in order to support the civil authorities in response to a simulated earthquake and Hazardous Materials incident.



Concept of the Operation



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Spaulding Fiber Plant Site



Staging Area

Simulated Incident Site

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Exit Gate

Entrance Gate

Communications

Medical

Latrines

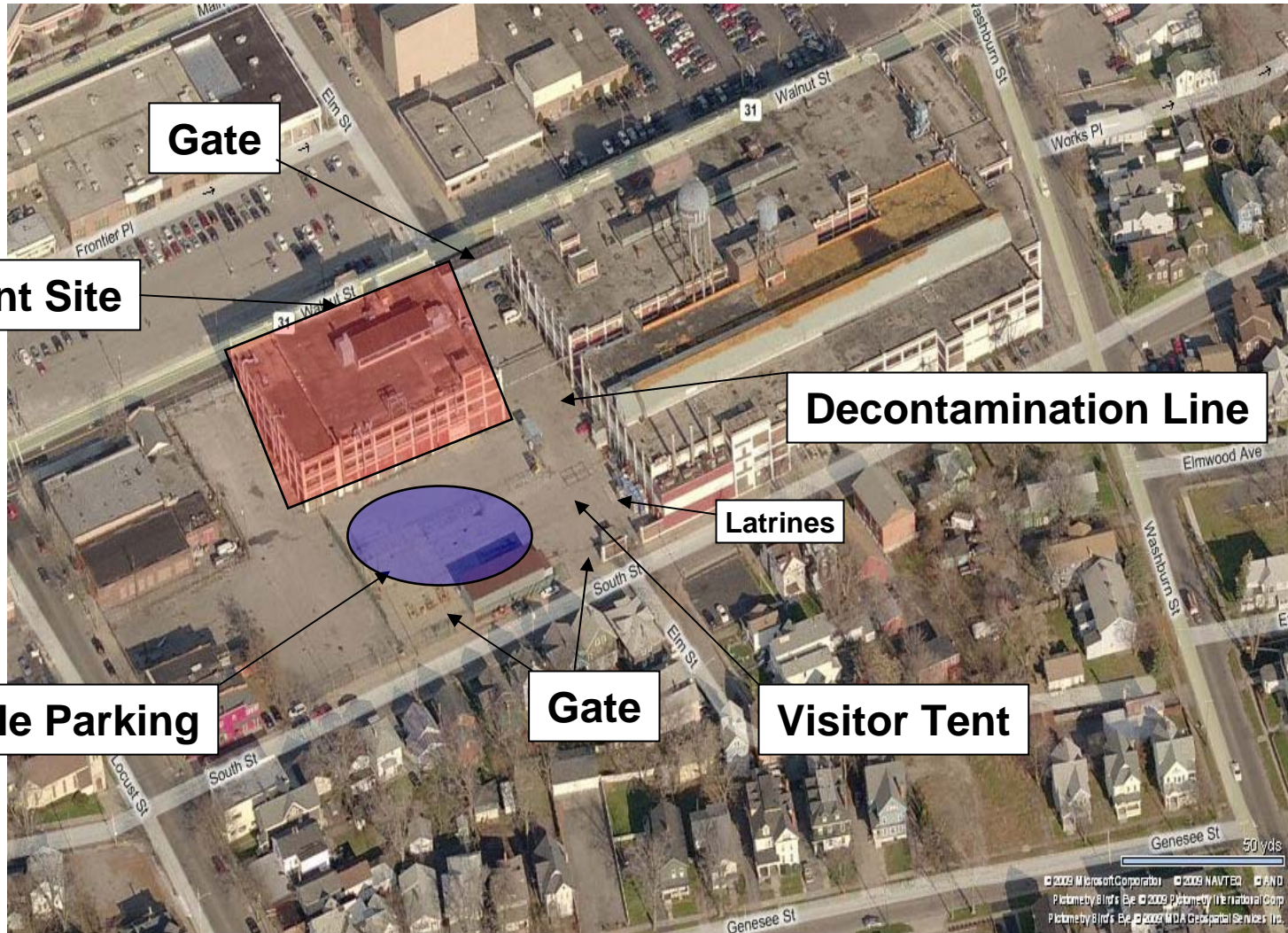
Warming Tent

Salvation Army

Visitor Tent



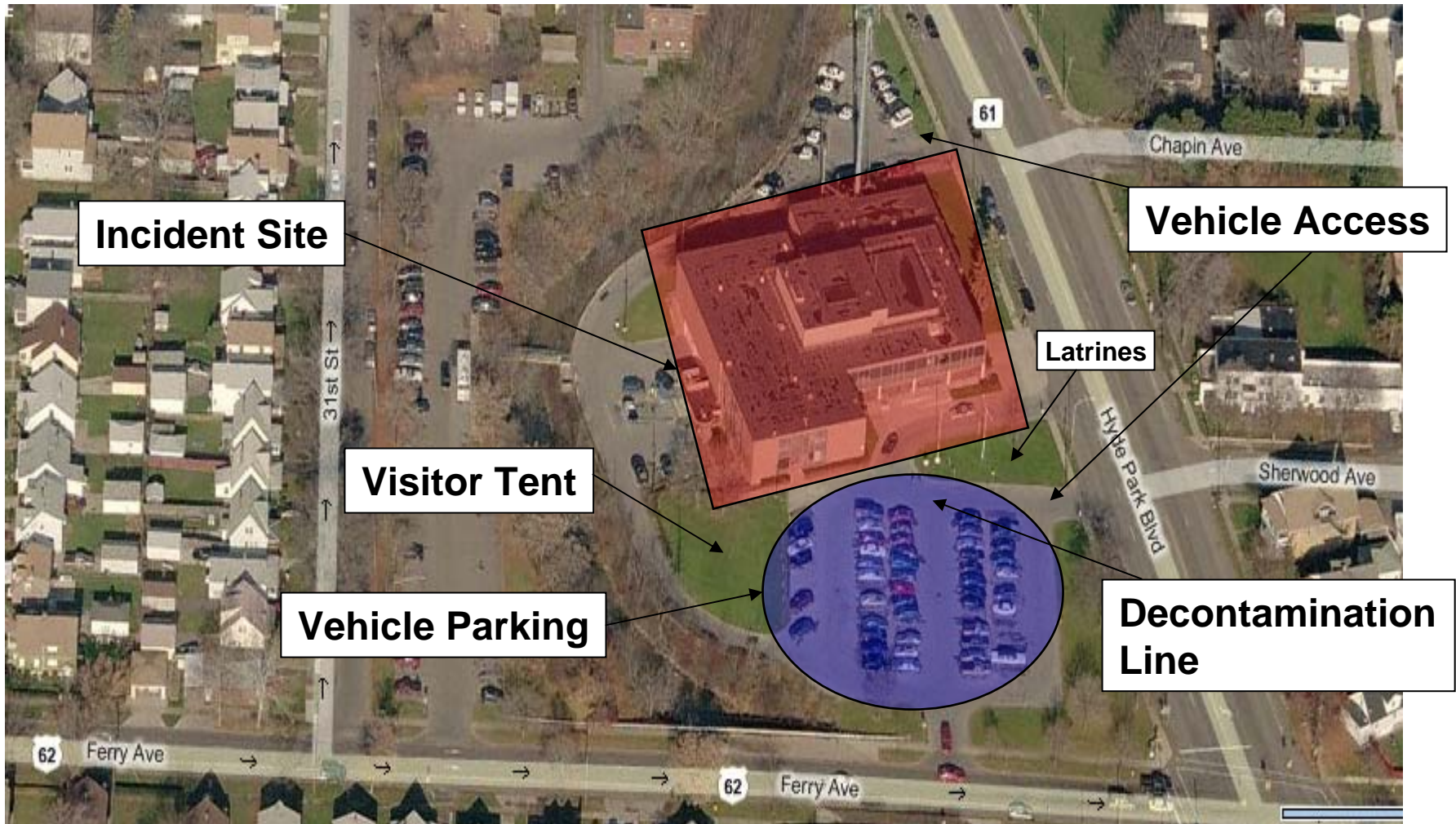
Civil Support Team site, Lockport



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Niagara Falls Police Dept NY CST site



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Daily Schedule



Spaulding Site

2-5 Nov from roughly 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily, one overnight on 3 Nov – limited activity with lights, noise levels will confirm to standing ordinance, site security provided 24-7

Firemen's Park

Medical evacuation based on scenario 3-5 Nov

Ground evacuation of simulated casualties

2-5 Nov based on scenario, up to 2 ambulances per day, once or twice each day

Convoys to and from Spaulding

In the morning and at the end of each day (roughly before 8 a.m. and at 5 p.m.) with State Police escort



Participating Civil Authorities



- **SEMO –**
 - **State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) replication cell**
- **Erie County EOC**
- **Cheektowaga EOC**
- **City of Tonawanda EOC**
- **Grand Island EOC**
- **Erie County Mobile Area Command Center**
- **Niagara County Communications Exercise**
- **American Red Cross**
- **Immigration and Customs (Immigrations and Customs Enforcement)**
- **US Customs and Border Patrol – Critical Infrastructure Teams**
- **Multiple Urban Search and Recovery Teams – incident site**
- **Erie County Specialized Medical Assistance and Response Team supporting simulated incident site**
- **Erie County Medical Center**
- **Salvation Army – supporting simulated incident site**
- **Buffalo Niagara International Airport**
- **New York State Police – Mobile Vehicle Inspection system**
- **Civil Air Patrol – a simulated incident site for Incident Awareness and Assessment**



Post Card to Tonawanda Residents



A joint civilian and military emergency response exercise known as Vigilant Guard will be held at the Spaulding Fiber Plant site in the City of Tonawanda 1-6 November. This will entail preparatory work at that location.

Civilian and military rescue and response teams are coming to practice life-saving skills under a notional earthquake scenario. During this period residents will notice military convoys and emergency vehicles traveling to and from the site each morning and at the end of the day.

This is an exercise. In the interest of public safety, the training site on the Spaulding property will not be open to the public although civilian news media will be invited.

For more information, go to the New York National Guard website at www.dmna.state.ny.us/VigilantGuard or call the New York National Guard public affairs office at (518) 786-4581 or the Mayor's Office, City of Tonawanda at (716) 695-8645.



Questions