

Major Bean named Commandant

Major Joseph P. Beans has been named Commandant of the Alaska Military Academy, according to Major General Edward G. Pagano, the Adjutant General.

Beans comes from what can be considered a "special" Guard family. His father, Ignatius, served in the Alaska Territorial Guard during World War II and then joined the Alaska National Guard when it was reformed in 1949.

In addition, four of Bean's brothers and one sister have seen service as citizen-soldiers in Guard units in the Bethel area.

Beans was born in Mountain

Village, Alaska, grew up there and graduated from St. Mary's High School.

He enlisted in the Guard in 1967 and after several promotions was selected to attend Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia. He was graduated and commissioned on May 29, 1969.