Alaskan sent to Panama Canal

Pvt. Steven D. Sampson recently joined soldiers from the 7th Infantry Division of Fort Ord, Calif., in "Nimrod Dancer," a temporary deployment to Panama.

The soldiers were sent to assist the U.S. Southern Command in defending the Panama Canal, protecting the American citizens and upholding the provisions of the Panama Canal Treaties, according to the Army and Air Force Hometown News Service.

Sampson is the son of Wilbur A. Sampson of Noorvik and Barbara McGee of Fairbanks. He is a 1986 graduate of Noorvik High School.