



## Guardsmen receive unit citation

The 2nd Battalion, 297th Infantry, Alaska Army National Guard, was awarded the first-ever Governor's Distinguished Unit Citation in a recent ceremony in Bethel. The award was created six years ago to recognize a unit of superior quality and performance of duty. The 2nd Battalion, which is headquartered in Bethel, received the award for a series of 13 accomplishments which set them above the rest of their fellow Guard units. Some of these accomplishments included the development of the *Resilient Warrior* program, an anti-alcohol and drug abuse program, community service during state emergencies and outstanding performances against Active Army units at the National Training Center in California.

"Your outstanding service to the community has saved and protected the lives and property of many Alaskans," said Brig. Gen. Sigurd E. Murphy in his presentation speech to the troops.

Above, members of Kipnuk-based Company C, 2nd Battalion, are, front from left, Willie Wassilie, Andrew Frank Jr., James Lewis, Benjamin Lupe, David Enoch; back, Kim Lewis, Archie Kashatok, Willie Frank, and Benjamin Daniel.

The soldiers are grouped around their battalion colors, which is now decorated by both the Distinguished Unit streamer as well as a previous streamer awarded for the entire 297th Infantry's contributions to World War II.

*Photo courtesy of the Alaska Army National Guard*