

# NGA Domestic Operations Team East Supports the MLB All-Star Game

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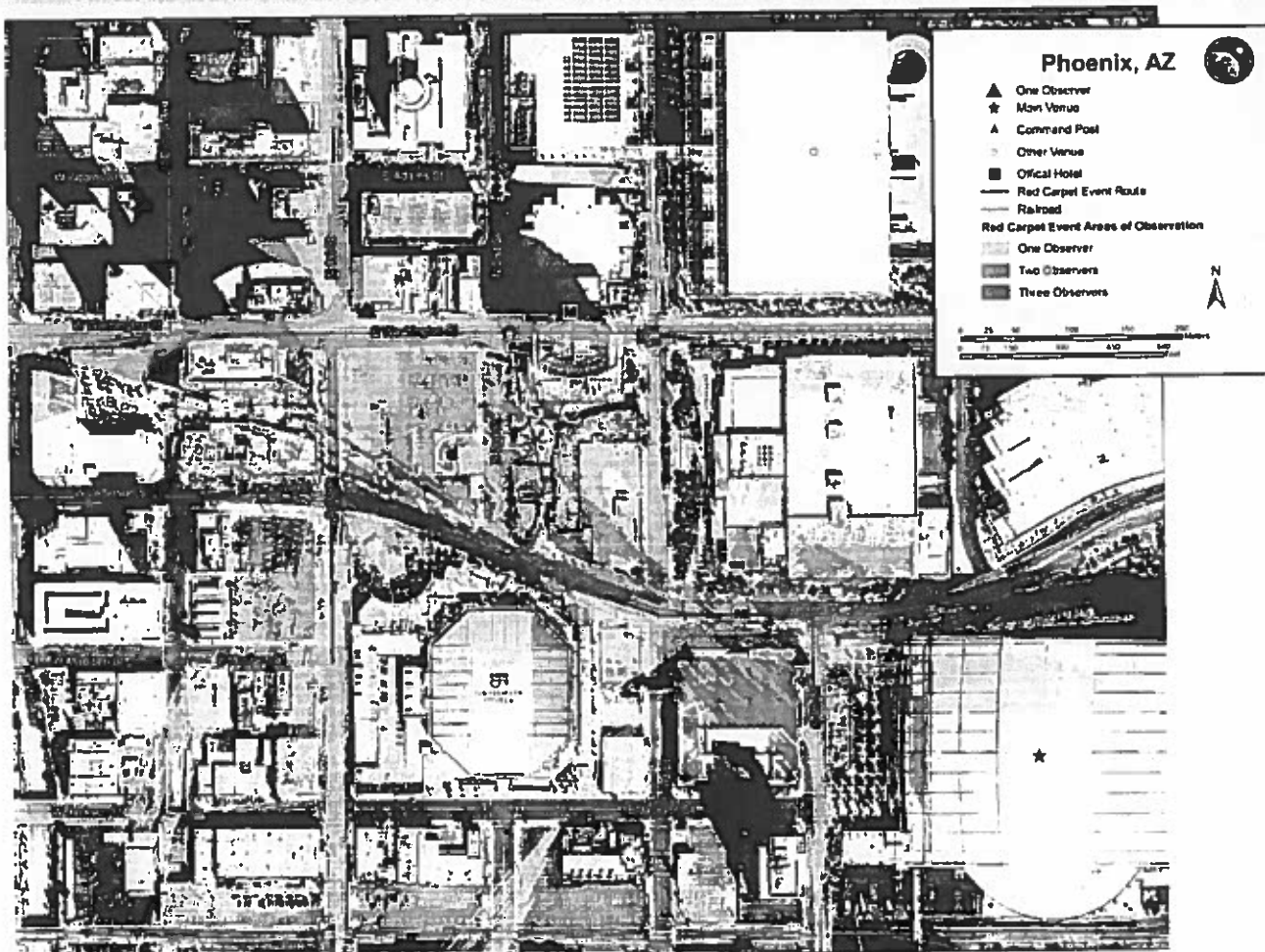
National Geospatial-intelligence Agency (NGA) analysts frequently serve as geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) ambassadors to state, local and federal agencies.

In July 2011 NGA's Domestic Operations Team East traveled to Phoenix to provide on-site support of the Major League Baseball All-Star Game that month. NGA personnel provided City of Phoenix personnel with advanced GEOINT training in line-of-sight analysis for use during sniper/counter-sniper observer planning and route planning. The team provided vehicle-borne, improvised explosive device-estimated damage graphics to the Department of Homeland Security/Transportation Security Administration and City of Phoenix Bomb Squad for areas of concern in and around the Phoenix International Airport. Additional planning graphics concentrated on counterterrorism efforts.

In 2008 a team from NGA provided GEOINT support to city personnel for an additional special security event—the Super Bowl—as requested by the FBI's Phoenix Field Office. The team demonstrated the utility of geospatially referencing many types of incidents and events, which reveal patterns and relationships. The City of Phoenix realized the power of GEOINT to not only inform key decision makers but also improve day-to-day operations. The city developed geographic information system (GIS) capabilities in their fire and police departments and other city-run departments. This year's work built on those earlier efforts.

The City of Phoenix expressed appreciation for NGA's support in making the MLB All-Star Game a success. Said City Manager Dennis Murphy, "Thank you for coming to Phoenix and assisting us in understanding the power of applying GIS to our situational information needs."

The future of GEOINT in the City of Phoenix is bright.



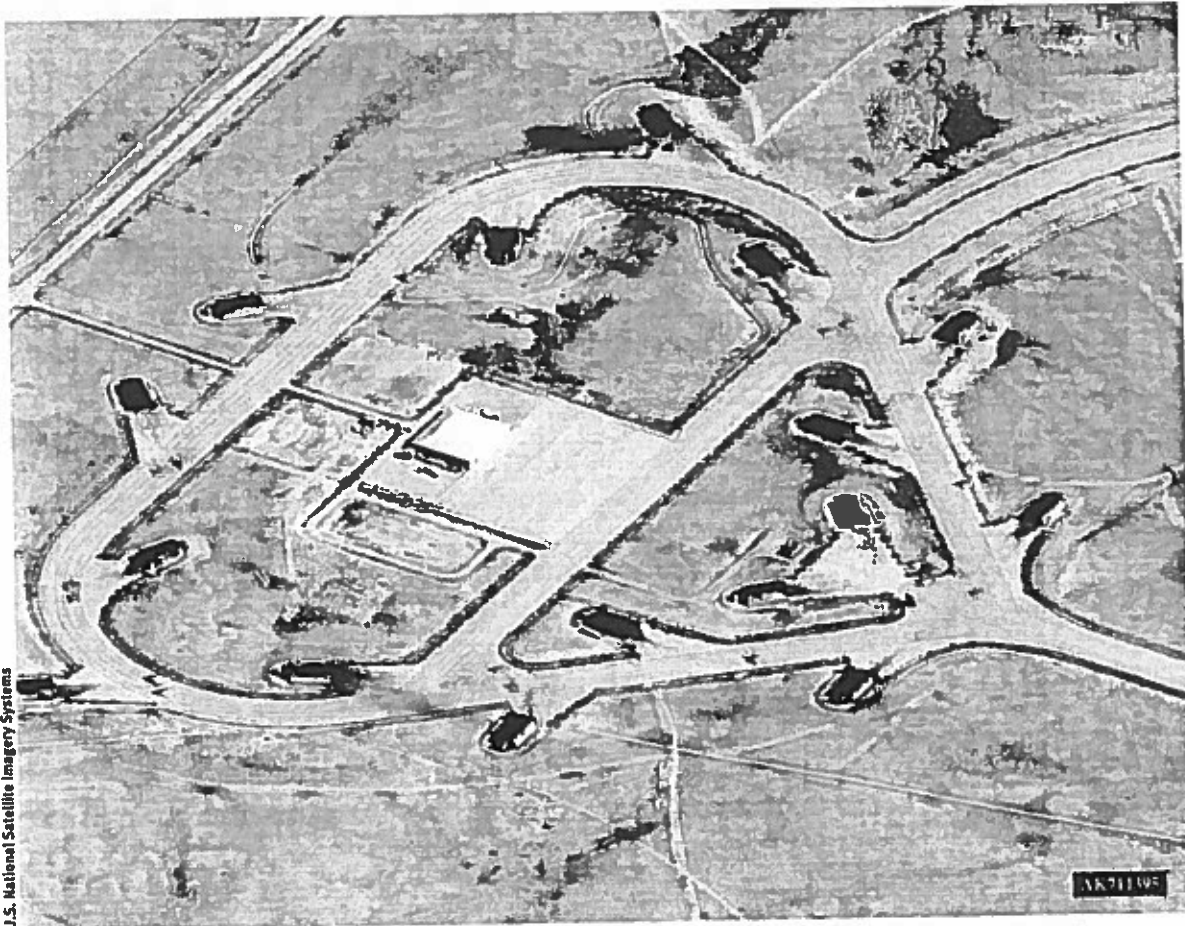
Depicted is the Red Carpet Event parade route areas of observation for the MLB All-Star Game.

a target against the potential costs. The LOAC arises from a desire among civilized nations to prevent unnecessary suffering and destruction while not impeding the effective waging of war. A part of public international law, LOAC regulates the conduct of armed hostilities. It also aims to protect civilians, prisoners of war, the wounded, sick and shipwrecked.

Customary international law and treaties drive LOAC. Article VI of the U.S. Constitution states that treaty obligations of the United States are the “supreme law of the land,” and the U.S. Supreme Court has held that international law and custom are part of U.S. law. In particular, military personnel must consider LOAC when planning and executing operations and must obey LOAC in combat. Those who violate LOAC may be held criminally liable for war crimes and court-martialed under the Uniform Code of Military Justice.

#### Target Vetting in the World of Social Media

During Operation Desert Storm in 1991 the world watched the results of target vetting and validation through the eyes of CNN reports. The fog of war has been and always will be a challenge, but the commitment and professionalism of iC partners to mitigate as much doubt as possible continues to save lives. Some of those lives could be the aircrew of coalition aircraft flying a second mission to take out a target, or the non-combatants who tweet an account of a nearby explosion. Either of these options has a bearing on international support of the goals of the United States and coalition partners. The IC—in conjunction with the COCOMS—is confident that with professionalism and commitment to excellence NGA can help hold a coalition together and advance the common cause of the international community. ✦



U.S. National Satellite Imagery Systems

*This image depicts the successful aftermath of a strike by a flight of B-2 bombers on the Ghardabiya Airfield south of Sirte, Libya, early in Operation Odyssey Dawn. A rigorous target vetting process, followed by precision targeting, helped neutralize a threat to U.S. and coalition forces while minimizing the risk to civilians.*