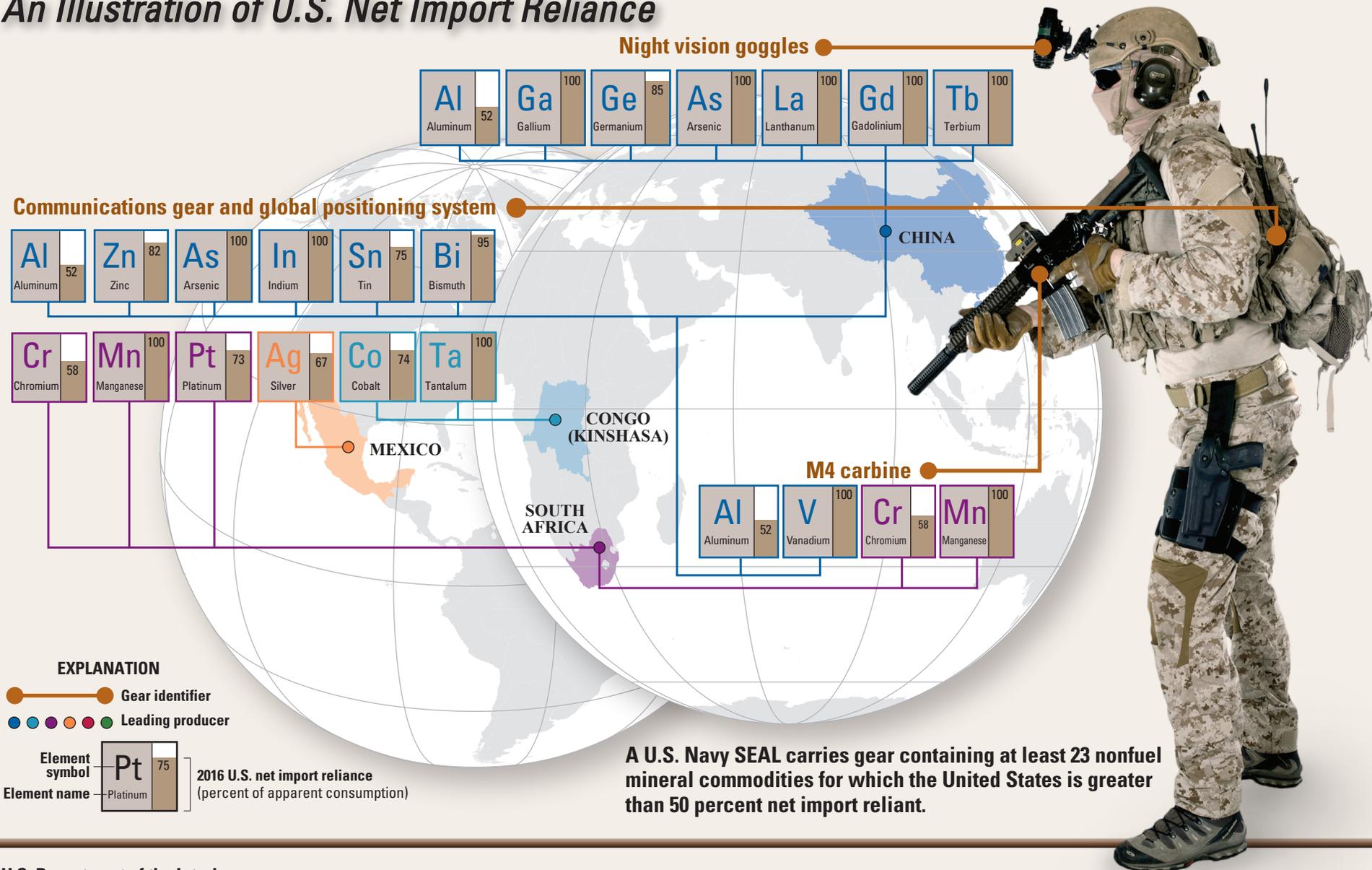


Globally Sourced Mineral Commodities Used In U.S. Navy SEAL Gear

An Illustration of U.S. Net Import Reliance

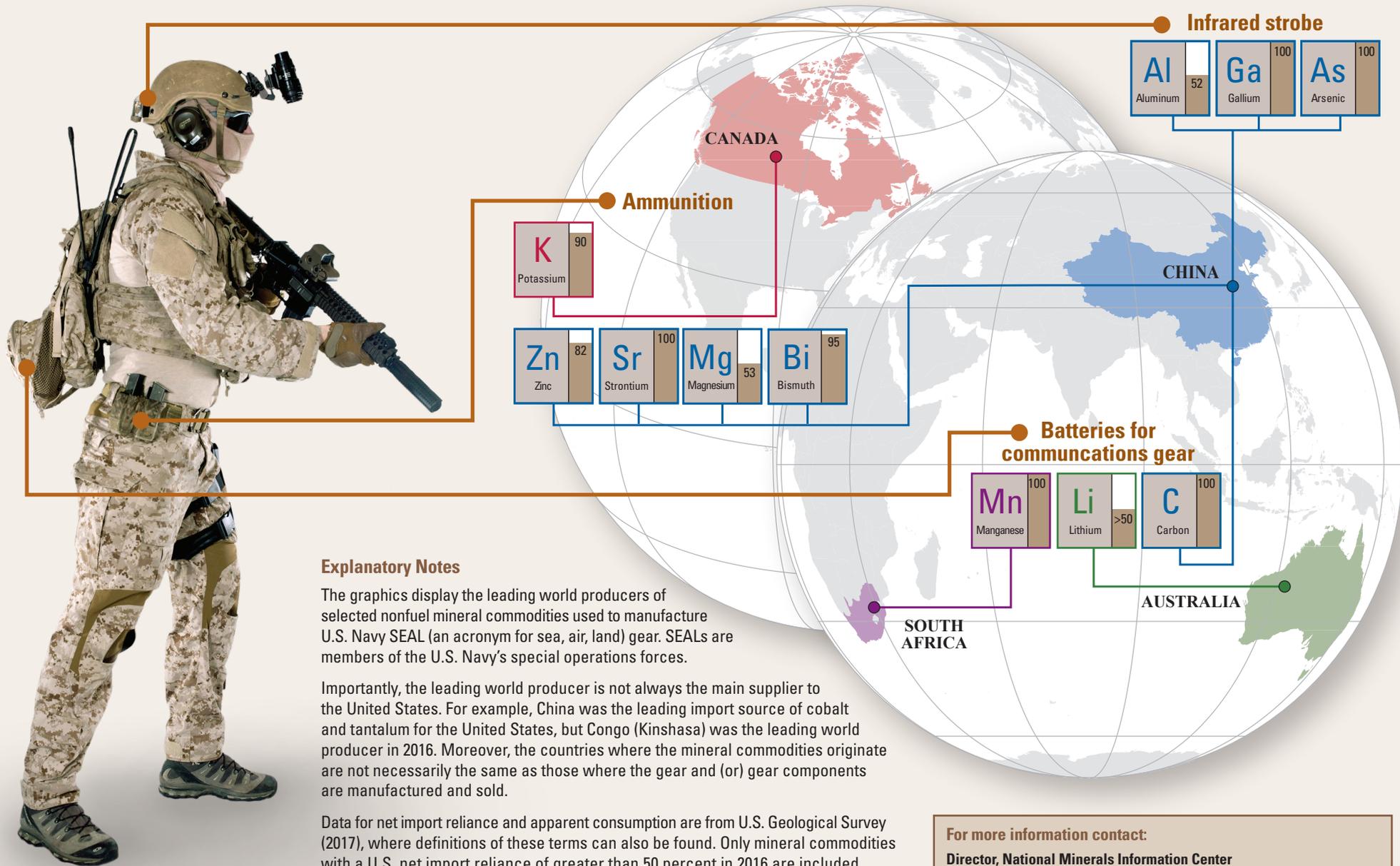


EXPLANATION

- Gear identifier
- ● ● ● Leading producer

Element symbol	Pt	75
Element name	Platinum	2016 U.S. net import reliance (percent of apparent consumption)

A U.S. Navy SEAL carries gear containing at least 23 nonfuel mineral commodities for which the United States is greater than 50 percent net import reliant.



Explanatory Notes

The graphics display the leading world producers of selected nonfuel mineral commodities used to manufacture U.S. Navy SEAL (an acronym for sea, air, land) gear. SEALs are members of the U.S. Navy's special operations forces.

Importantly, the leading world producer is not always the main supplier to the United States. For example, China was the leading import source of cobalt and tantalum for the United States, but Congo (Kinshasa) was the leading world producer in 2016. Moreover, the countries where the mineral commodities originate are not necessarily the same as those where the gear and (or) gear components are manufactured and sold.

Data for net import reliance and apparent consumption are from U.S. Geological Survey (2017), where definitions of these terms can also be found. Only mineral commodities with a U.S. net import reliance of greater than 50 percent in 2016 are included. The U.S. net import reliance for lithium was greater than 50 percent in 2016, but the actual percentage is withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary production information. Carbon refers to natural graphite, magnesium refers to magnesium compounds (rather than magnesium metal), and potassium refers to potash.

Reference Cited

U.S. Geological Survey, 2017, Mineral commodity summaries 2017: U.S. Geological Survey, 202 p. (Also available at <https://doi.org/10.3133/70180197>.)

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Photographs of the U.S. Navy SEALs are courtesy of the U.S. Navy.

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