



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 4, 2015

CONNECTICUT ARMY NATIONAL GUARD UNITS SET FOR FIRST DEPLOYMENTS OF 2015

HARTFORD, Conn. - Maj. Gen. Thaddeus J. Martin, the Adjutant General and commanding officer of the Connecticut National Guard, announces that Soldiers of the 143rd Regional Support Group and the 192nd Military Police Battalion will mobilize and deploy.

A send off ceremony will be held at the William A. O'Neill Armory in Hartford on Thursday, March 5, 2015, at 5:30 p.m.

Approximately 35 Soldiers of the 143rd RSG will provide command, control and administration to all base life support operations on a post in Afghanistan. The Middletown-based unit is commanded by Col. John Wiltse of Berlin.

The 192nd Military Police Battalion will deploy approximately 55 Soldiers to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba in support of detainee operations. The Niantic-based unit is commanded by Lt. Col. Paul Deal of Hampton.

"Both of these units have very different missions, but show the versatility of the Soldiers and the units of the Connecticut Army National Guard," said Maj. Gen. Martin. "These missions continue our proud tradition of preparing Soldiers who are trained and ready to deploy anywhere in the world, even on the shortest of notice."

The deployment of the 143rd RSG is unprecedented. Traditionally, a National Guard unit has 18 to 24 months to prepare for a mission, but an immediate need placed the unit, its soldiers, families and employers on a truncated timetable.

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Over the next 15 months, the Connecticut National Guard is preparing to deploy over 250 Soldiers to perform missions across the globe.

This event is open to the media.

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Directions to 360 Broad Street, Hartford, CT 06105:

Going East on I-84: Take the Capitol Ave. Exit 48B. Take a right at the end of the ramp, and your first right on to Armory Street Extension. The Legislative Office Buildings will be on your right.

Going West on I-84: Take the Asylum Street Exit 48. Turn right at the light, then immediately take the left fork, which is Farmington Avenue. Turn left at the next light onto Broad Street. After one light, the State Armory will be on your left, take the next left into the Legislative Office Building driveway and continue left to park alongside the east side of the building (between the State Armory and LOB Garage)

From I-91, Northbound and Southbound: Take the Capitol Area Exit 29A. Follow the Whitehead Highway; go halfway around the rotary onto Elm St., left onto Trinity St., and bear right onto Capitol Ave. Take the first right after the I-84 on/off ramps and continue straight to the State Armory.

Parking: Limited parking is available on the EAST side of the Armory (between the Armory and LOB Parking Garage). Television production vehicles must be coordinated with Capt. Mike Petersen at 860-524-4857 or michael.t.petersen.mil@mail.mil.

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