



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 7, 2018

CONNECTICUT NATIONAL GUARD TO OFFICIALLY WELCOME HOME 400 REDEPLOYED AIRMEN

Governor, Lt. Governor expected to join CTNG leadership for ceremony

HARTFORD, Conn. - Maj. Gen. Thaddeus J. Martin, the Adjutant General and commanding officer of the Connecticut National Guard, announced the formal welcome home ceremony for nearly 400 members of the Connecticut Air National Guard who recently returned from deployment.

A ceremony will be held at the William A. O'Neill Armory in Hartford, Conn. on Sunday, April 8, 2018, at 2:30 p.m. Media are invited to attend.

Based in East Granby and Orange respectively, the 103rd Airlift Wing and 103rd Air Control Squadron served throughout Southwest Asia, responsible for supporting ongoing Expeditionary Combat Support operations in the CENTCOM, AFRICOM and PACOM areas of responsibility – including air battle management, airspace management, tactical airlift, maintenance, security and logistics support.

This ceremony marks the completion of the Wing's first large-scale deployment since undergoing conversion to the C-130H Hercules air frame in 2013. The Connecticut Air National Guard's rich history includes three decades flying the A-10 Warthog and 85 total years as a fighter group.

"Since November 2016, we have watched hundreds of Connecticut's Airmen deploy in service to their nation," said Maj. Gen. Martin. "Now, we have the opportunity to thank not only them, but their families, for the hard work and sacrifices they endured as a consequence of answering this call to duty."

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In recent history, the unit has deployed members and equipment to support multiple missions in the Middle East, providing support in Iraq, Afghanistan, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

The Connecticut Air National Guard was also part of the massive relief efforts after hurricanes swept throughout the southeastern United States and the Caribbean in 2017. The unit flew more than 100 C-130H sorties as over 120 Connecticut Air and Army Guardsmen delivered personnel and equipment to Texas, Florida, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

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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 Maj. Mike Petersen at 860-524-4857 or michael.t.petersen.mil@mail.mil.