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For Immediate Release

Utah Guard's 2-211th Aviation Battalion Returns from Kuwait and Iraq

DRAPER, Utah – The 150 Soldiers of the Utah Army National Guard's 2nd Battalion, 211th Aviation, will return to Utah Sunday, Feb. 8, after serving 12 months in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The unit deployed in February 2008 and provided UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter transport of Coalition equipment and personnel in Kuwait and Iraq. Soldiers arrived at Fort Carson, Colo., earlier this week and have been undergoing demobilization processing.

Soldiers of the 2-211th will arrive at approximately 1:30 p.m. via civilian charter aircraft at the Utah Air National Guard Base adjacent to Salt Lake International Airport. Media desiring to cover the return of the 2-211th should plan to arrive at the Base by 12:30 p.m.

Returning Soldiers are from the following cities: Alpine, American Fork, Bountiful, Brigham City, Cedar Hills, Clearfield, Clinton, Draper, Eagle Mountain, Elsinore, Farr West, Ferron, Grantsville, Herriman, Kaysville, Kearns, Layton, Lehi, Magna, Mapleton, Midvale, Murray, Ogden, Orem, Paradise, Payson, Perry, Pleasant Grove, Provo, Redmond, Richfield, Riverton, Rush Valley, Salt Lake City, Sandy, Saratoga Springs, Smithfield, South Jordan, Spanish Fork, Springville, St. George, Stansbury Park, Syracuse, Taylorsville, Thatcher, Tooele, Uinta, Vernal, Wales, Washington Terrace, West Jordan, West Point, West Valley City, Woodland Hills and Woods Cross.

The return of the 2-211th brings to approximately 350 the number of Airmen and Soldiers serving overseas from the Utah National Guard. Units currently deployed include the 142nd Military Intelligence Battalion (Afghanistan), the 128th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment (Iraq) and the 169th Intelligence Squadron (U.S. Southern Command).

Media Notes: The Salt Lake Air Base is located at 765 N. 2200 W. (just east of Salt Lake International Airport). On the day of arrival please contact Lt. Col. Lisa Olsen at (801) 245-2446 for additional information.