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For Immediate Release

Utah Army Guard Receives New Apache Longbow Helicopters

WEST JORDAN, Utah – The Utah Army National Guard’s 1-211th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion is in the process of receiving upgraded AH-64D Apache Longbow helicopters to replace the AH-64A models currently in use.

The aircraft began arriving in the state late last week, and the next group of four helicopters are expected to arrive at the Aviation Support Facility in West Jordan Thursday, Oct. 15, at approximately 5 p.m. An updated arrival time will be announced early Thursday afternoon.

According to Lt. Col. James Bledsoe, commander of the 1-211th, the ‘D’ model Apache Longbow helicopter represents a significant improvement over the ‘A’ model and is four times more lethal and seven times more survivable than the AH-64A.

The new helicopters have glass cockpits with multifunctional displays, upgraded night-vision systems, fire-control radars and improved situational awareness, said Bledsoe.

“These helicopters bring greater capability and survivability to the 1-211th,” said Bledsoe. “The new aircraft looks similar from the outside but is a completely different aircraft when sitting in the cockpit.”

Once the transition is completed, the Utah Guard will have 24 Longbow helicopters in its inventory.

Media Notes: The Utah Guard’s Army Aviation Support Facility is located at 7602 S. Airport Road (4470 West) in West Jordan. Please contact Lt. Col. James Bledsoe at (801) 816-3490 for more information.