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Press Release 10-011, 4 March 2010

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For Immediate Release

Utah Air National Guard Hosts Hometown Heroes

SALT LAKE CITY – The Utah Air National Guard's 151st Air Refueling Wing will host a Hometown Heroes Salute ceremony honoring 80 Airmen and their families at the Salt Lake Arts Center March 5, at 7 p.m.

In August 2008, General Craig R. McKinley, Chief of the National Guard Bureau, sanctioned the Air National Guard Hometown Heroes Salute recognition program. The purpose of the program is to celebrate and honor the significant contribution of its Airmen, families, communities and those special supporters to the mission of the U.S. Air Force and the Air National Guard.

Airmen recognized in this ceremony will include those who have deployed for more than 30 consecutive days in support of Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, Noble Eagle and other peacekeeping operations across the globe since 9/11.

Schedule of events is as follows:

- 7:00 p.m. - Ceremony begins
- 7:10 - Brig. Gen. David M. Hooper, Assistant Adjutant General, Air
- 7:20 - MG Brian L. Tarbet, Adjutant General
- 7:30 - Utah Governor Gary R. Herbert
- 7:45 - Award presented to Gov. Herbert
- 7:50 - Awards presented to Airmen and families

Over the past three months, the Utah ANG has hosted several Hometown Heroes Salute ceremonies recognizing more than 200 people for their service.

The Salt Lake Arts Center is located at 20 South West Temple in Salt Lake City. Please contact Maj. Krista DeAngelis at (801) 505-3213 or visit www.151arw.af.mil for more information.