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## **For Immediate Release**

### **Clinton Guardsman Serves in Support of OEF-Horn of Africa**

CAMP LEMONNIER, Djibouti— Major Ammon Campbell, a member of the Utah Army National Guard and resident of Clinton, Utah, is currently serving as a member of Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Campbell is a graduate of Brigham Young University and holds master's degrees from Webster University and Long Island University. He is currently working as an operations officer in one of the tenant units at Camp Lemmonier, Djibouti.

Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA) is headquartered in Djibouti and employs an indirect approach to counter violent extremism. Servicemembers work to prevent the exploitation of instability by building the internal capacities of countries at risk. CJTF-HOA personnel use military-to-military mentorship as the cornerstone to building partner-country security capacity. CJTF-HOA supports development by building schools, clinics and hospitals and conducting medical and veterinary civil-action projects.

"Despite the challenges of being deployed far away from friends and family I have personally seen the positive impact that Servicemembers have on the local area and populace," said Campbell. "Our efforts directly contribute to improving the stability of the Horn of Africa and future regional security."

Servicemembers work alongside host nations to help Africans provide for their own stability. CJTF-HOA personnel use military-to-military mentorship as the cornerstone to building partner country security capacity. CJTF-HOA also supports development by building schools, clinics and hospitals and conducting medical civil action and veterinary civil action projects.

"The work of building security capacity in Africa is important to us all," said Rear Adm. Anthony Kurta, commander of CJTF-HOA. "Our men and women in uniform comprise the best military force in the world. We are inspired by the opportunity to help Africans help themselves."

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The CJTF-HOA organization includes about 1,800 people from all branches of U.S. Military, Coalition forces, civilian employees and partner nations.

For Campbell, being in Africa means expecting the unexpected. Daily challenges include avoiding nomadic herds of camel or goats on the road and maintaining malarial protection through daily medication and mosquito netting. One morning Campbell opened his door to find that a poisonous burrowing asp had set up shop in his office.

“In the States we often take for granted access to basic needs such as clean water, safe travel and emergency support,” explained Campbell. “Here in Africa, even simple road trips require detailed plans in order to avoid magnifying problems.”

“To help remind us of these challenges we like to say, ‘TIA’ (This is Africa),” he added.

For more information, please visit the following Web sites:

- <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/dj.html>
- <http://www.hoa.africom.mil/AboutCJTF-HOA.asp>