



UTAH NATIONAL GUARD PUBLIC AFFAIRS
12953 S. Minuteman Drive, Draper, UT 84020-1776
P: (801) 432-4407 - F: (801) 432-4677 - www.ut.ngb.army.mil

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Contact: LTC Hank McIntire, (801) 420-4778

For Immediate Release

Utah Guard Engineers Deploy to Afghanistan

SALT LAKE CITY – Approximately 120 Soldiers of the Utah Guard's 118th Engineer Sapper Company will depart Utah en route to a 12-month deployment to Afghanistan this weekend.

Families of departing troops will visit with their Soldiers beginning at 4 p.m. Friday, and a departure ceremony will begin at approximately 4:45 p.m. with remarks from Maj. Gen. Brian L. Tarbet, adjutant general of the Utah National Guard, and Capt. Blake Bingham, commander of the 118th.

After the departure ceremony, Soldiers will board a charter aircraft bound for Fort McCoy, Wis., where they will receive several weeks of training for their assigned mission to provide route-clearance support to Coalition forces in Afghanistan.

Soldiers of the 118th reside in the following cities:

American Fork, Beaver, Blanding, Bluffdale, Bountiful, Castle Dale, Cedar City, Cedar Hills, Centerville, Clearfield, Draper, Duchesne, Eagle Mountain, Enoch, Fountain Green, Grantsville, Green River, Heber, Herriman, Highland, Holladay, Hooper, Huntington, La Sal, Layton, Lehi, Levan, Magna, Moab, Mona, Monroe, Monticello, Monument Valley, Mount Pleasant, Murray, Ogden, Orem, Park City, Payson, Perry, Plain City, Pleasant Grove, Price, Provo, Riverton, Roy, Salt Lake City, Sandy, Santaquin, Saratoga Springs, South Jordan, Spanish Fork, Springdale, Taylorsville, Tooele, West Jordan, West Valley City and Woods Cross.

Media Notes: The Utah Air National Guard Base is located at 765 N. 2200 W. (just east of Salt Lake International Airport). Please contact Lt. Col. Hank McIntire at (801) 420-4778.