



UTAH AIR NATIONAL GUARD PUBLIC AFFAIRS
765 N. 2200 W., Salt Lake City, UT 84116-2999
P: (801) 245-2446 - F: (801) 245-2535 - www.151arw.af.mil

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Contact: Lt. Col. Lisa Olsen, (801) 245-2446

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Utah Air Guard's 151st Security Forces Squadron Returns from Iraq

SALT LAKE CITY – More than 30 Airmen from the 151st Security Forces Squadron, Utah Air National Guard, will return home this month after a six-month deployment to Iraq in support of Operation New Dawn. Unit members deployed in February 2011 and will be arriving back in Utah at the Salt Lake International Airport on August 15 at 4 p.m.

During the deployment, Utah Airmen assisted in airbase defense, as well as a variety of missions that have helped hone their skills as well as those of their Iraqi counterparts. While in Iraq, Airmen provided support to a visit by then-U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates.

"During the high-level visit, Utah Airmen helped defend the perimeter of the base, searched personnel and vehicles entering the base, provided close personnel protection, provided security for the Secretary's aircraft using military working dogs, walked patrols and patrolled the area in armored Humvees," explained Lt. Col. David Meyer, 151st SFS commander.

Additionally, the Security Forces Airmen were also involved in training members of the Iraqi Air Forces, as well as helped plan for the transition of Sather Air Base. The deployment was part of the 151st SFS' s regularly scheduled Air Expeditionary Forces deployment rotation.

Returning Airmen reside in the following cities: Castledale, Centerville, Clearfield, Clinton, Eagle Mountain, Herriman, Kamas, Keams, Layton, Logan, Mendon, Murray, Provo, Roosevelt, Roy, Saratoga Springs, Spanish Fork, Syracuse, Tooele, West Jordan, West Point, West Valley City, and Rigby, Idaho.

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