



NEBRASKA NATIONAL GUARD

NEWS RELEASE

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**CHEMICAL UNIT TO MOBILIZE
FOR OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM**

**RELEASED BY
MAJ GEN ROGER LEMPKE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LINCOLN, Neb. – The Nebraska Army National Guard's 755th Chemical Reconnaissance/Decontamination Company will be mobilized for Operation Iraqi Freedom in late August, Maj. Gen. Roger Lempke, Adjutant General for Nebraska announced today. The 755th is located in O'Neill but the unit will be augmented by Soldiers from other chemical units in Omaha, Nebraska City, Seward, and Falls City, and by Soldiers from other National Guard units across the state. Approximately 175 Soldiers will make up the enlarged company, which is commanded by 1st Lieutenant Vincent Dvorak of Sioux City, Iowa..

Normally the mission of the chemical unit is locating suspected chemical or biological contamination and decontaminating contaminated personnel or equipment however the unit will be converted to a security force for this deployment. The unit has already undergone extensive security training and will receive additional training at Cp. Shelby, Miss., before deploying. Following that training the unit will report to the Central Command area of responsibility for approximately one year. The unit's ultimate destination will not be released until after it has arrived.

A send-off ceremony will be held for the unit prior to its departure. Details will follow at a later date.

There are approximately 800 Nebraska Army National Guard Soldiers currently deployed in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. That number is about 23 percent of the Army National Guard force in the state. More than 75 percent of the force remains available for homeland defense or other emergency response duties.