



NEBRASKA NATIONAL GUARD

NEWS RELEASE

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**DEPLOYING OMAHA SOLDIERS
TO BE WISHED FAREWELL
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, IN OMAHA**

**RELEASED BY
CAPT. KEVIN HYNES**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LINCOLN, Neb. – Sixty-five Nebraska Army National Guard Soldiers will be wished farewell, Wednesday, June 21, at the North Omaha Readiness Center in Omaha during a ceremony scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m.

The Soldiers are assigned to the Omaha-based Headquarters, 867th Quartermaster Petroleum Supply Battalion, which is mobilizing for Operation Iraqi Freedom. Following the mobilization, the unit will be deploying to Camp Shelby, Miss., for several months of training before ultimately deploying overseas for its year-long mission. The unit's final destination is not being released at this time.

Normally, the unit would be responsible for running fuel farms and fuel truck operations, however, unit officials say that they have been informed that they will instead be responsible for providing a higher headquarters for approximately 10 companies ranging in missions from ammunition and transportation to petroleum supply.

Among those expected to speak during the ceremony are Gov. Dave Heineman and Brig. Gen. Robert Bailey, Nebraska National Guard deputy adjutant general and other state, local and military leaders.

The mobilization of these Soldiers brings the total number of Nebraska Army National Guardsmen mobilized or preparing to mobilize for operations overseas to approximately 800 or 23 percent of the state's entire Army Guard force. More than 75 percent remains available for homeland defense or other emergency response duties.

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NOTE: The media is invited to cover the Omaha ceremony. The ceremony is scheduled to begin at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 21, and last approximately one-hour. The North Omaha Readiness Center is located at 11650 Rainwood Road.