



NEBRASKA NATIONAL GUARD

# NEWS RELEASE

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**NEBRASKA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD AVIATION  
UNITS TO BE WISHED GOOD LUCK BEFORE STARTING  
LATEST OVERSEAS MISSION ON JANUARY 5 IN GRAND ISLAND**

**Released by  
Lt. Col. Kevin Hynes**

**January 3, 2019**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

LINCOLN, Neb. – Approximately 50 Soldiers assigned to two Grand Island-based Nebraska Army National Guard aviation units will be wished farewell on Saturday, Jan. 5, before starting their latest yearlong overseas mission in support of Operation Freedom Sentinel.

The Soldiers are primarily assigned to Company B, 2-135<sup>th</sup> General Support Aviation Battalion (GSAB), a CH-47 Chinook helicopter unit stationed at the Nebraska Army National Guard's Army Aviation Support Facility No. 2 in Grand Island. Soldiers from Grand Island's Detachment 1, Company D, 2-135<sup>th</sup> GSAB, are also assigned to the mission.

As a Chinook helicopter unit, the Soldiers are responsible for providing aerial movement of troops, supplies and equipment, and supporting U.S. military and allied operations. The unit is expected to deploy into the U.S. Central Command area of operations after several weeks of training in Texas. The unit's final destination is not being released at this time.

The send-off ceremony is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m. on Jan. 5 at the Heartland Events Center in Grand Island. Among those expected to speak are Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts and Maj. Gen. Daryl Bohac, Nebraska adjutant general.

The ceremony is open to the general public.

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Media Note: The media is invited to cover the sendoff ceremony at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 5, at the Heartland Events Center in Grand Island. The center is located at 700 East Stolley Park Road in Grand Island. A Nebraska National Guard public affairs officer will be on hand to provide assistance. For more information on the ceremony, please contact Lt. Col. Kevin Hynes at 402-309-8390.