



MEDIA ADVISORY

25th Infantry Division
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25th Infantry Division Redeployment ceremony announcement

WHO: Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 25th Infantry Division

WHAT: HHBn, 25th Infantry Division redeployment ceremony

WHERE: Wheeler Gulch, Wheeler Army Airfield, HI

WHEN: November 21, 2011 at 10 p.m.

WHY: To welcome the 25th Infantry Division's HHBn return from Iraq

BACKGROUND: Soldiers of the Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion (HHBn), 25th Infantry Division will begin returning to Hawaii over the next few weeks - with the first group returning Monday, November 21. The HHBn, 25ID has served the past year in Iraq as the support element for the 25th Infantry Division Headquarters, which served at the command and control element for United States Division – Central and currently United States Division – South.

Since early 2011, the HHBn, 25ID has served as the support element for the 25th Infantry Division headquarters in support of Operation New Dawn. The 25ID Headquarters was responsible for leading the advise, train and assist mission throughout central Iraq. It is currently the last division headquarters under U.S. forces in Iraq, responsible for overseeing operational-level detail, command and control needed until the completion of the U.S. force withdrawal from Iraq.

“All of us in the Tropic Lightning Division appreciate having been selected to be the last U.S. division headquarters and organization in Iraq,” said Maj. Gen. Bernard Champoux, commanding general, 25th Infantry Division during a recent Pentagon press brief. “Tropic Lightning soldiers and the soldiers assigned to the United States Division-Center are proud that we have measured up to the expected standards of professionalism and commitment.”

“The experiences we're turning over to enduring organizations in the Iraqi security forces and U.S. Mission-Iraq are solid and substantial,” he added. “And I sincerely hope that the way we are executing this task honors the sacrifices of the many that came before us, and also honors their legacy of selfless service -- all in simple obedience to duty.”

Monday's ceremony will mark the first wave of 25th Infantry Division Soldiers redeploying from Iraq.

MEDIA NOTE: Media interested in attending this ceremony should RSVP Sgt. 1st Class Joe M. Battle at (808) 655-4756 or joe.battle@us.army.mil

