



# M E D I A   R E L E A S E

STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY

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## **West Tennessee Guardsmen depart for Iraq**

**NASHVILLE** – Almost 200 Tennesseans from the National Guard's 1174th Transportation Company in Memphis left April 15 on the first leg of a journey to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

They are now at Camp Atterbury, Indiana, where they will complete advanced pre-deployment training before heading to Iraq.

“We’ve already completed a lot of quality training,” said Capt. Chris Kirkman, commander of the 1174th. “That training has been tough and realistic, our morale is high, soldiers are focused, and we’re ready for the mission ahead.”

The Transportation Company is composed primarily of Guardsmen from West Tennessee, but includes 60 volunteers from Middle and East Tennessee.

**CUTLINES: Soldiers of the 1174th Transportation Company in Memphis during final formation minutes before their departure April 15 on the first leg of their journey to Iraq.**

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