



MEDIA RELEASE

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DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY

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1/230th Air Cavalry Soldiers home from Afghanistan First 29 arrive today in Nashville

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – The first twenty-nine Guard members from the Tennessee Army National Guard's 1/230th Air Cavalry Squadron returned home today from an extremely successful deployment to Afghanistan. The Soldiers arrived in 2 groups and were transported to the National Guard's Volunteer Training Site at the Smyrna Airport for out processing.

Arriving home just in time for Thanksgiving, the Soldiers spent the last 10 months providing reconnaissance and security for American troops on the ground in Afghanistan. The 1/230th ACS flies the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter, the only armed reconnaissance helicopter currently in the Army inventory.

Latest budget cuts recommended by the Army include the divestiture of the OH-58D army wide to include the 30 aircraft assigned to Tennessee. No replacement reconnaissance aircraft has been determined. The Army plans to use the AH-64 Apache to fulfill its reconnaissance requirements.

The remainder of the original 80 deployed Soldiers from the 1/230th are scheduled to arrive in mid December.

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PHOTO CAPTIONS: Soldiers from Tennessee's 1/230th Air Cavalry Squadron arrive home at the Nashville International Airport today after serving for nearly 10 months in Afghanistan.