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U.S. ARMY MANEUVER SUPPORT CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FT. LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI



Media Release

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55th MAC readies for deployment

Story and photo by Dawn Arden

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Read article at: <http://www.army.mil/article/109321/>

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – In an official ceremony held Monday, the 55th Mobility Augmentation Company cased their colors, thus preparing for a nine-month deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

After more than a year of pre-deployment training and a certification training exercise at Fort Riley, Kan., the engineer unit stood as a team, receiving praise and advice from their leadership.

“For many of them, this is not their first deployment, and they know what’s in store for them,” said Lt. Col. Sebastian Joly, 5th Engineer Battalion commander. “For you veterans, this is a time to lead those who have not gone forward and help them adjust to the rigors of deployment. For the first timers, this can be a time of anticipation and anxiousness.”

Capt. Jason Song, 55th MAC commander, spoke of the battalion’s rich history.

“Warriors, you rose to the nation’s call for over 70 years, ensuring a sense of freedom, liberty and equality,” Song said.

Joly thanked the Family Readiness Group for their work saying that they were exceptional, and the Families will be in good hands while their Soldiers are away. He also thanked the Families for all they do in supporting their Soldiers and nation.

“On behalf of our Soldiers, our Army, and our nation, I thank you for shouldering us through. Your fellow citizens may not fully appreciate the sacrifices on their behalf, but everyone here does and we can never express our gratitude sufficiently,” Joly said.

Joly told the unit that he was proud to serve with them, and that they have demonstrated that they’re the best in the Army at what they do.

“Fight like you train, take care of each other, live the warrior ethos — you will make your Families, your unit, and our nation proud,” Joly said.

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FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – First Sgt. Brock Noah, right, and Capt. Jason Song, left, case the colors of the 55th Mobility Augmentation Company during a deployment ceremony Monday in Nutter Field House. (Photo by Dawn Arden, Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs)

Media interested in more information should contact the Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office at (573) 563-4145.

About Fort Leonard Wood

Fort Leonard Wood is a thriving and prosperous installation that has evolved from a small basic training post 70 years ago to a premier Army Center of Excellence that trains 80-90,000 military and civilians each year.

Home to the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence, Fort Leonard Wood now trains and educates service members and develops doctrine and capabilities for the Training and Doctrine Command’s U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School, U.S. Army Engineer School, and U.S. Army Military Police School, three gender integrated Initial Military Training brigades, one of only five reception stations in the Army, and the Army’s largest Non Commissioned Officers Academy.

Over the past several years, Fort Leonard Wood has received numerous additional responsibilities to include supporting the 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, a large

Forces Command unit that is responsible for all deployable capabilities at Fort Leonard Wood. A colonel-commanded Marine Corps Detachment and an Air Force Detachment, which are both the largest on any Army installation, are located on Fort Leonard Wood; a large Navy Seabee Detachment and elements of the Coast Guard train here as well.

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