



MEDIA ADVISORY

1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley

HOME OF THE BIG RED ONE



July 5, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

‘Big Red One’ headquarters to return from Iraq

FORT RILEY, Kan. — More than 300 Soldiers with the 1st Infantry Division headquarters are set to return this month from a nine-month deployment to Iraq and Kuwait. The first welcome-home ceremony is scheduled for 4 a.m. July 7 on Fort Riley’s Camp Funston.

The “Big Red One” headquarters deployed in October 2016 and assumed the role of Combined Joint Forces Land Component Command – Operation Inherent Resolve. In that role, the division headquarters provided command and control of Coalition troops training, advising and assisting Iraqi Security Forces.

While deployed, Maj. Gen. Joseph Martin, 1st Inf. Div. and Fort Riley commanding general, served as commanding general of CJFLCC. During that time, 1.8 million people were liberated in Mosul, Iraq, which has been under ISIS control since June 2014. Since October 2016, more than 350,000 children have returned to school in Mosul, 320 schools have reopened and 195,000 internally displaced persons have returned to their homes in Mosul.

Under the 1st Inf. Div.’s leadership, 30,000 Iraqi Security Forces Soldiers were trained and almost 5,000 square kilometers of ground was liberated in Mosul.

All members of Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 1st Inf. Div., are expected to return by the end of July.

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Media interested in attending this redeployment ceremony for the headquarters return are asked to RSVP with the 1st Infantry Division’s Public Affairs Office by calling (785) 240-1796 or emailing jason.p.roberts22.ctr@mail.mil. The deadline to RSVP is 4 p.m. July 6.