

Citizen-Soldiers of the Missouri national guard in Macon area are headed overseas for a deployment

News

Posted by : John

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Hundreds of family members, friends and well-wishers are expected to pack Macon High School on Saturday, June 15th as the town prepares to bid farewell to local National Guardsmen bound for Afghanistan. More than 120 Soldiers of the Macon-based 1438th Engineer Company will depart for a year-long deployment to southern Afghanistan.



They will spend 10 months dismantling the numerous temporary, modular bridges built by the U.S. and British militaries throughout Operation Enduring Freedom.

Captain McClellan Gaono-Taiese, the 1438th commander, explained the majority of time will be spent tearing down these bridge sections and preparing them for shipment back to the United States.

The 14-38th conducted its pre-deployment mission training at Camp Crowder, near Neosho. The unit will now travel to Fort Dix, New Jersey, before heading to Afghanistan. It is slated to return home in spring 2014. The 14-38th Engineer Company consists of nearly 200 Soldiers. It is a subordinate unit of the Cape Girardeau-based 11-40th Engineer Battalion.