

Oregon soldiers return from Afghanistan after year-long tour

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

Nearly 100 soldiers of the Oregon Army National Guard will return to Oregon today after a yearlong tour in Afghanistan. They are among the first to return from their tour of duty of about 950 soldiers who were deployed. The soldiers, members of the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team headquartered in Tigard, began to mobilize for training last year in February and deployed in June. While deployed, the 41st IBCT led Joint Task Force Phoenix in the critical mission to train the Afghan National Army. Because of their skill and expertise, the unit picked up the additional responsibility of training the Afghan National Police. This was the largest wartime deployment of Oregon National Guardsmen since World War II. The soldiers are scheduled to arrive at Portland Air National Guard Base this afternoon at 2:45 p.m., and will join their families at the co-located Jackson Armory after deplaning.

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