



**JOINT READINESS TRAINING CENTER
AND FORT POLK
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**
Press Release



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**Joint Readiness Training Center hosts Operation Iraqi Freedom
Mission Rehearsal Exercise**

FORT POLK, La. – Soldiers from 39th Enhanced Separate Infantry Brigade, Little Rock, Arkansas will be on Fort Polk to participate in a Joint Readiness Training Center Operation Iraqi Freedom mission rehearsal exercise.

They will be challenged to use their skills against JRTC's 1st Battalion, 509th Infantry (Airborne), the Opposing Force (OPFOR) for the training center.

The exercise will train the unit for deployment in an environment accurately replicating on-going operational and tactical situations found in Iraq. Role players will act as residents of the "country" and provide a variety of challenges to the unit. Individuals the unit may encounter include civilians, International Organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations and coalition forces.

The 39th Infantry Brigade, composed of approximately 4,000 soldiers, is the largest combat command within Arkansas. The Brigade is headquartered in Little Rock, Arkansas with Battalion Headquarters in Malvern, Searcy, Warren, Russellville and Hazen and will deploy with the 1st Cavalry Division in March.

The MRX is scheduled from February 15th through the 26th; however troops will be in the area several days before and after the exercise.

Public Reminders:

Motorists are reminded that soldiers will be in the area throughout the exercise and many days after. Do not go around barricades or travel in restricted areas.

To minimize traffic during the training, access control point (ACP) 7, located on Alligator Lake Entrance Road, will be closed to all civilian traffic from February 16th through the 25th, 04.

All personnel working or conducting business at North Fort Polk must enter from either Texas Avenue or Entrance Road with the exception of those working in the 8300, 8500, or 8600 Blocks. All commercial trucks requiring access to the North Fort cantonment area will be provided escort and must exit Fort Polk using the Texas Avenue ACP.

Any noise complaints should be reported to the Noise Line by dialing (337) 531-1431. Callers are encouraged to leave their names and phone numbers so Fort Polk can address concerns and respond to individual complaints.

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