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SENATOR ALLARD ANNOUNCES ARMY PLAN TO RELOCATE 3,700 SOLDIERS TO FORT CARSON

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-Colorado) on Thursday announced that the Army plans to relocate 3,700 soldiers to Fort Carson in Colorado Springs.

Specifically, the 2nd Brigade of the 2nd Infantry Division will move to Fort Carson temporarily after finishing its current rotation in Iraq. The soldiers had been stationed in South Korea. The 2nd Brigade, consisting of three battalions, two light infantry battalions and one mechanized battalion (Bradley fighting vehicle) is the Army's only combined Light/Heavy brigade. A final decision regarding their new permanent home will be made following the base realignment and closure process (BRAC).

"It is a smart move for the Army to use Fort Carson to its capacity," Senator Allard said. "Fort Carson is a critical national asset focused on the task of ensuring that the men and women who defend our country remain the best-trained, best-equipped fighting force in the world."

"Fort Carson is a pre-eminent Army site, so it makes a lot of sense to redeploy this unit to the base," the Senator said. "This move will strengthen Fort Carson for the next round of BRAC."

The Heavy Battalion (mechanized) consists of 58 M2A2 fully armored Bradley vehicles. The role of the M2 is to transport infantry on the battlefield, provide fire cover to dismounted troops and to suppress enemy tanks and vehicles. The M2 carries a commander, gunner and driver, plus six fully equipped infantrymen.

The other two are air assault battalions, which have the ability to operate in terrain that will not support mechanized operations. The capabilities of these two battalions round out the combat effectiveness of the 2nd Brigade when paired with the Heavy Battalions.

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