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Indiana National Guard receives Special Forces unit

INDIANAPOLIS – Maj. Gen. Courtney P. Carr is pleased to announce that the Indiana National Guard will be the new home of a highly-trained and specialized Special Forces unit.

Beginning Sept. 1, 2016, soldiers with Company A, 2/20th Special Forces Group can officially call the Hoosier State their home. The unit is currently stationed in Chicago.

Their dedication to their mission is expressed in the Special Forces motto: “De Oppresso Liber,” a Latin phrase meaning “to free the oppressed.” Special Forces units perform five doctrinal missions: foreign internal defense, unconventional warfare, special reconnaissance, direct action and counterterrorism. Special Forces soldiers employ these missions throughout the operational continuum, during peacetime, conflict and war.

Indiana’s Joint Force Headquarters director of operations and training will conduct the administrative command and control for the unit. An officer in the rank of major will be the unit’s commander. The unit will be stationed at Camp Atterbury. Company A’s higher headquarters is stationed in Mississippi.

Soldiers who meet the selection requirements and wish to join the unit can apply through their chain of command in order to attend the Special Forces Readiness Assessment. The next SFRA is scheduled for the fall of 2015 at Camp Atterbury, Ind. Applicants must be male, physically fit, mentally tough, in the paygrade of E3 to E6 or O2 to O3, and meet other requirements. Candidates need to be in the military currently or prior service. The unit will have approximately 90 personnel once fully manned.