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Troops return to Galva from Iraq

GALVA, III. About 130 area soldiers received a hero's welcome yesterday in the Henry County town of Galva.

The members of the Foxtrot battery of the 202nd Air Defense Artillery returned to their home base at the Galva armory after about 16-months serving in Iraq. They were greeted at the Quad City International Airport in Moline by a caravan of law enforcement and other vehicles, and stopped several times along their trip to Galva by well-wishers in Annawan and Kewanee as they travelled down U-S Highway 34.

The battery's commander, Major Mike Kessel, says his troops helped build schools and water treatment plants, and guarded the so-called "Green Zone", but he says their greatest accomplishment was helping oversee the Iraqi elections.

The troops represent armories in Galva, Kewanee, and Dixon.

(Thanks to Will Stevenson of WGIL-AM in Galesburg).

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