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## Local Guardsmen headed for Iraq

By *DAVE CLARKE* Of *The Star Courier*

KEWANEE -- Three members of the Kewanee National Guard unit have been called to active duty for deployment to Iraq with an Urbana-based infantry unit.

Master Sgt. Bob Haverback of Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 202nd Air Defense Artillery, confirmed Monday that three members of the unit will report to 2nd Battalion, 130th Infantry, with headquarters in Urbana, to help bring the unit up to strength.

In addition to the Headquarters Company in Urbana; Company B, based in Effingham, and Company C in Litchfield, will comprise the 130th with a strength of approximately 450 soldiers, according to an Illinois National Guard spokesman in Springfield.

Local Guard officials could not release the names of those called up from Kewanee for security reasons, but said they are from Sheffield, Moline, and a Chicago student attending Bradley University in Peoria.

One warrant officer from Battery E of the 202nd in Dixon also was called up for the 130th.

Six members of the Dixon unit also have been called up for federal active duty in Iraq with the 135th Combat Engineer Company based in Lawrenceville.

They also will report for duty on Wednesday.

All have gone through soldier readiness processing which includes record checks, immunizations, equipment issue, physicals, dental screenings, family

support activities, and other pre-mobilization tasks needed to prepare them for deployment.

The 130th Infantry will report to Fort Stewart, Ga., for further processing and additional training before leaving for Iraq.

The 135th Combat Engineers will report to Camp Shelby, Miss., for mobilization processing.

The call-up is for 18 months of active duty which could be extended based on operational requirements, according to state National Guard officials.

Last year members of the Kewanee and Dixon batteries of the 202nd ADA were called up to supplement Battery F in Galva, and have been serving in Iraq since last March.

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