



1st Armored Division Troops Aligned With CENTCOM, Ready for Eager Lion Kick-Off

From the Army News Service:

About 100 Soldiers from the 1st Armored Division are now in Jordan, within the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility, as part of an advance headquarters element that will pave the way for follow-on Soldiers in the June “Eager Lion” exercise.

Maj. Gen. Sean B. MacFarland, the new commander of Fort Bliss, Texas, and the 1st Armored Division, or 1st AD, will himself go forward in a few weeks to meet up with his deputy, who is already in place, in order to participate in the exercise.

“It’s an opportunity for us to develop mil-to-mil relationships with the Jordanian armed forces,” MacFarland

said. “The 1st Armored Division is regionally aligned with the U.S. Central Command, or CENTCOM, area of responsibility, or AOR, so building on our ability to operate and establish greater bonds of mutual trust with the Jordanians is a huge benefit for our troops who are going over there, and familiarizing ourselves with Jordan.”

The exercise will involve about 8,000 personnel. About 5,000 of those will be U.S., and about 3,000 will be Jordanian.

The 1st AD is “regionally aligned” with CENTCOM, something the Army has recently started to push. A regional alignment flags Army units to prepare to go

forward and support combatant commanders as they address mutual threats and interests with partners; build capabilities of partners so they can handle things themselves; and increase influence to have access if needed.

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