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News Release



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U.S. Army North announces exercise

FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS – U. S. Army North, U. S. Northern Command's Joint Force Land Component Command, will host about 3,600 military and civilian personnel from across the country to take part in a major training exercise simulating the response to a terrorist attack in the United States.

Exercise Vibrant Response, the nation's premier disaster response exercise, will take place April 20 through May 10 at Camp Atterbury, Ind. The exercise will include participants from the Department of Defense, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Indiana National Guard, the State of Missouri and several other local, state, and federal agencies.

The training will include simulated decontamination operations, airlift, medical training and many other events.

Army North's Joint Task Force 51 will mentor the newly established Task Force 38, comprised of units of the Indiana National Guard, as they and Task Force 76 will lead the forces of the two Command and Control Contingency Response Elements (C2CRE-A/B) as they support federal, state and local emergency responders during the first half of the exercise.

Task Force-76 is comprised of Reserve members from the 76th Operational Readiness Command, Salt Lake City.

Joint Task Force – Civil Support, based at Fort Eustis, Va., and members of the Defense Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear (CBRN) Response Force (DCRF) will be put to the test during the second half of the exercise along with FEMA and the State of Missouri.

The DCRF and C2CREs are organized into four task forces: Task Force Operations, Task Force Aviation, Task Force Medical and Task Force Sustainment. Their capabilities include CBRN technical rescue, decontamination, aviation, medical, logistics and other functions.

Army North, when directed by the Commander of U.S. Northern Command, deploys response forces to support civil authorities in order to save lives, prevent further injury and provide temporary critical support.

To cover this event, media should contact Mr Randy Mitchell, U.S. Army North Public Affairs, at 210-569-2532, to coordinate any media events with training audiences.

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NOTES FOR MEDIA: Vibrant Response is a command post, where many training events will be simulated.