



Media Advisory

Oregon Air National Guard

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F-15 DEPLOYMENT

Portland OR –Seven F-15 jet fighters from the 142nd Fighter Wing will leave from the Portland Air Base at 5 a.m. Thursday, June 3, en-route to NAS (Naval Air Station) Keflavic, Iceland for a 45-day deployment. The deployment of aircraft and approximately 50 unit members is in support of the US Air Force's Aerospace Expeditionary Force 9 and 10. This operation is part of the ongoing mission in Iceland to deter aggression in the North Atlantic, protect Iceland's airspace, and support contingency operations.

Operational requirements will require a non-stop departure to coincide with other military operations, such as air refueling, so the Oregon jets will carry three external fuel tanks for the long flight. With the increased weight of each aircraft, the use of an afterburner takeoff will be required for the jets to safely clear the airfield.

The 85th Operations Squadron at NAS Keflavik provides the infrastructure to host and support rotating military aircrews from all over the world. F-15 and F-16 jet fighters plus, air refueling tankers and rescue aircraft from the Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve, and Air Force active duty units deploy to Iceland on a rotational basis to provide for that country's defense.

The Oregon Air National Guard has been an integral part of our nation's air defense since 1941. The 142nd Fighter Wing maintains a continuous alert with F-15s from Portland as part of the Western Air Defense System. For more information on the unit please visit our website www.orport.ang.af.mil.