

The Mississippi Army National Guard is training more than 500 soldiers for a September deployment to Bosnia as part of the multi-national peacekeeping force.

Mississippi troops will join 21 other state's troops to form Stabilization Force 10 in the Balkan nation.

"Our soldiers have been undergoing intensive training," said Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. James H. Lipscomb III. "These are the finest troops, and I have complete confidence that they will perform their mission in a professional manner."

The Guard members, assigned to Mississippi's 155th Separate Armored Brigade, are primarily armor infantry soldiers and support personnel from other units. "We have assembled a task force that has proven they what it takes to get the job done," Lipscomb said.

The Guardsmen have been training in a mock base camp at Camp Shelby and have studied Bosnian and Serbian history, which will aid them as peacekeepers. The soldiers will be in Bosnia for seven months