

Here come the tanks: Large Armor School shipment arrives at Fort Benning from Fort Knox

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In one of the largest rail shipments to Fort Benning, equipment from the U.S. Armor School at Fort Knox, Ky., is making its way through Columbus to a new home on post.

Abrams tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles and Stryker vehicles were spotted on rail cars this week in Columbus. The historic shipment will be unloaded by a crew of more than 100 personnel Tuesday at the Ochille Railhead on post.

As part of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure process, the U.S. Armor School will complete its move to Fort Benning by Sept. 15, creating the Maneuver Center of Excellence. The move is sending 500,000 pieces of equipment to Fort Benning, requiring several large rail shipments to transport all the vehicles.

Soldiers also will be moving to Fort Benning over the next three months to new facilities at Harmony Church.

The school will bring 7,500 soldiers to the post and up to 28,000 people to the community, including family members, civilian workers and contractors.

The Armor School reaches another milestone at 10 a.m. Monday when the colors of the 194th Armored Brigade and the 316th Cavalry Brigade, the primary units at the school, will be uncased on Brave Rifles Field, signifying the arrival of the brigades from Fort Knox.

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