

Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Michigan Army National Guard Michigan Air National Guard Veterans Affairs

3411 N. Martin Luther King Blvd.
Lansing, Mich. 48906
(517) 481-8141

Rick Snyder
Governor

Maj. Gen. Gregory Vadnais
Director and Adjutant General

PRESS RELEASE

August 3, 2012

Michigan Army National Guard Soldiers suffer injuries in Afghanistan

Lansing, Mich. – Four Michigan Army National Guard Soldiers from the Augusta-based 1433rd Engineer Company were injured by an improvised explosive device Aug. 1, 2012 in Afghanistan.

The Soldiers were on patrol when an improvised explosive device was detonated.

Injured were Staff Sgt. Robert Drebenstedt, 29, of Charlevoix, Spec. William Barnett, 24, of Ypsilanti, Spec. Steven Nelson, 26, of Dollar Bay and Pvt. Joshua Colon, 20, of Grand Rapids. Their conditions are being evaluated for return to, or release from, military duty.

“The injured Soldiers were transported from the incident site to military medical facilities at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan for treatment,” said Capt. Aaron Jenkins, State Public Affairs Officer, Michigan National Guard.

Ninety members of the 1433rd Engineer Company were deployed in May 2012 to Afghanistan for a one year mobilization.

-END-

MEDIA ADVISORY:

Please contact the Michigan National Guard public affairs office at 517-481-8141 for more information.