

Division 3's Richard Kelly and His Son Are Called to Military Duty

By LISA HUYNH

(May 14, 2003) Like father, like son: North Los Angeles Division 3 Mechanic Richard Kelly and his son, Philip, both were called to military duty for "Operation Iraqi Freedom."

National Guard Specialist Richard Kelly was activated in late April to serve with Homeland Defense team to provide domestic security. He's currently stationed at Edwards Air Force Base.



Marine Corporal Philip Kelly and Division 3's Richard Kelly, a National Guard specialist, are in uniform and on location.

Kelly, 42, was one of 9,000 National Guard members who were called to duty nationwide. More than 100 are stationed at Edwards.

Marine Corporal Philip Kelly, 23, went to Iraq in early February. He's with the first Marine Division from Camp Pendleton. He joined the Marines in 1999 and may leave the military in end of July.

After the Marines, Philip would like to become a truck driver, bus operator or mechanic for MTA, like his father.

Coming home soon

"The last I heard from him was three weeks ago by satellite phone," says Richard Kelly. "He's in Iraq right now. His division is hoping to return to Camp Pendleton by the end of June."

Kelly says he and his family are proud of Philip. "We've tied yellow ribbons around the trees in our neighborhood and we've sent him 'care packages' to show our support."

It's no surprise that Richard and Philip Kelly are both in the military. Richard's father was a loadmaster in the Air Force.

Richard has another son, Richard Jr., who plans to join the National Guard in a couple of months. His 15-year-old daughter, Grace Kelly, plans to join the Air Force or the Marines when she turns 18.

[Back to Bulletin Board](#)