

# South Dakota National Guard

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Rapid City Soldiers to return from Afghanistan deployment**

RAPID CITY, S.D. – A welcome home ceremony for six Soldiers of the South Dakota Army National Guard's Detachment 48, Operational Support Airlift Command is scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 23, at 10 a.m. (MT) at the Army Aviation Support Facility at Rapid City Regional Airport.

The Rapid City-based Det. 48 is returning from an eight-month deployment to Afghanistan in support of Task Force ODIN.

The public is encouraged to attend.

Gov. Dennis Daugaard, U.S. Senator Michael Rounds, Rapid City Mayor Steve Allender and Maj. Gen. Tim Reisch, adjutant general of the SDNG, are planned speakers for the ceremony.

Detachment 48 is a fixed-wing aviation unit comprised of pilots and operations specialists which operate the C-12 King Air. The unit's primary mission in theater was to provide aerial reconnaissance and surveillance in support of U.S. and coalition ground commanders in the field.

The unit returned to the United States on Jan. 17 and has been completing demobilization requirements at Fort Bliss, Texas, before returning to South Dakota.

This is the third mobilization for the unit, which deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2008 and 2011.

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