

South Dakota National Guard

Public Affairs Office

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Welcome home ceremony set for 1-147th Field Artillery soldiers

ABERDEEN, S.D. – A welcome home ceremony is scheduled for 110 soldiers with the South Dakota Army National Guard's Alpha Battery, 1-147th Field Artillery Battalion and 147th Forward Support Company at the Civic Center in Aberdeen on Saturday, July 25 at 2:30 p.m.

The soldiers are returning home after serving on a 10-month deployment to Europe in support of Operation Atlantic Resolve, which enhances the U.S. deterrence posture, increase the readiness and responsiveness of U.S. forces in Europe, and supports the collective defense and security of U.S. allies and partners.

The ceremony will be limited to unit soldiers and their family members, as well as SDNG leadership, to allow for health and social distancing guidelines. The ceremony will be live streamed for public viewing via Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/SouthDakotaNationalGuard>.

Planned speakers for the ceremony include Gov. Kristi Noem, Maj. Gen. Jeff Marlette, SDNG adjutant general, and Capt. Craig Evenson, Alpha Battery commander.

The Aberdeen-based Alpha Battery is equipped with the Multiple Launch Rocket System, or MLRS, and provides artillery support to a brigade, division, corps or coalition task force. The Watertown-based Forward Support Company is a multifunctional logistics unit which provides supply and maintenance support.

The unit arrived in the United States July 8 and have been completing demobilization requirements at Fort Bliss, Texas, before returning to South Dakota.

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MEDIA NOTE: News media will be permitted to attend the event to allow for news coverage. If planning on attending, please notify the SDNG Public Affairs Office at the information listed below.

FOR MORE INFORMATION contact the SDNG Public Affairs Office at (605) 737-6721 or email ng.sd.sdarng.list.pao@mail.mil