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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Ceremonies to mark changes in South Dakota Army National Guard artillery unit**

WATERTOWN, S.D. – The South Dakota Army National Guard will host official ceremonies this month as most of the units of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery transform into 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery (Multiple Launch Rocket System) and other combat support units. All of the ceremonies will be held at the units' hometown National Guard armories.

**Saturday, June 23 – 11 a.m. (CDT)** – Sisseton's Battery A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery will be inactivated and become Detachment 1, Headquarters and Headquarters Section, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery .

**Saturday, June 23 – 3 p.m. (CDT)** – Webster's Detachment 2, 665<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Company and Detachment 1, Headquarters and Headquarters Section, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery will inactivate and a new unit, Detachment 2, 147<sup>th</sup> Forward Support Company (MLRS) will be activated.

**Wednesday, June 27 - 11 a.m. (CDT)** - Sioux Falls' 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery will roll the flag and move it north to Watertown and a new unit, Detachment 1, 147<sup>th</sup> Forward Support Company (MLRS), will be activated.

**Wednesday, June 27 – 3 p.m. (CDT)** Mitchell's Battery A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery will roll the flag and move it north to Aberdeen and a new unit, the 147<sup>th</sup> Forward Support Company (MLRS), will be activated.

**Thursday, June 28 – 11 a.m. (CDT)** Aberdeen's Battery B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery will inactivate and Battery A, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery will be activated.

**Thursday, June 28 – 2 p.m. (CDT)** Redfield's Battery C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery will be inactivated and a new unit, Company A, 139<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion (BSB), will be activated.

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**Thursday, June 28 – 5 p.m. (CDT)** Miller's Detachment 2, Battery C, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery will deactivate and a new unit, Detachment 2, Company A, 139<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion (BSB), will be activated

NOTES:

- Deactivation means the unit and its flag are being retired. Activation means a new unit is being formed.
- Activation ceremonies for Watertown's 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion and inactivation of 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion along with a change of command will be held at 11 a.m. on August 4.
- The mission of 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery (MLRS) will remain the same.
- The mission for Sisseton's Detachment 1, Headquarters and Headquarters Section, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery will provide command and control of the firing units on the battlefield.
- The mission for the 147<sup>th</sup> Forward Support Company is to provide maintenance and service support to 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery.
- The mission of Company A, 139<sup>th</sup> BSB (Distribution) will be to provide logistical support to the Brigade Combat Team on the battlefield.
- **Structure of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 147th Field Artillery (MLRS)** - The 1<sup>st</sup>/147th Field Artillery (MLRS) will continue its mission of delivering medium range rocket and long range rocket missile fires. It will locate its headquarters in Watertown and Sisseton. It will command Battery A in Aberdeen (72 personnel); Battery B in Salem and Sioux Falls (72); Battery C in Yankton (72); and the 147th Forward Support Company (FSC) in Mitchell, Sioux Falls, and Webster (169).