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MEDIA ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Artillery Soldiers return home today

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. – Five Soldiers from the 147th Field Artillery Brigade will arrive home tonight at 9:51 p.m. CST, Thursday, Aug. 16, at the Sioux Falls Regional Airport after serving nearly nine months in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Staff Sgt. Jeremy Young, Spc. Erik Erickson, Spc. Lance Weiler, Spc. Paul Schaefer and Spc. Luke Deters volunteered to deploy with Echo Company, 1st Battalion, 125th Infantry Regiment, Michigan Army National Guard, on Dec. 1, 2006. The 147th Soldiers conducted a security force mission that focused on training and evaluating the Iraqi Police.

Echo Company took over the security force mission after it conducted a transfer of authority from Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 147th Field Artillery, South Dakota Army National Guard on Sept. 20, 2006, at Forward Operating Base Rustamiyah.