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Aug. 20, 2007  
PAO 08-20-07

**MEDIA ALERT FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Transformation brings a new Guard unit to Pierre**

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota National Guard will activate a new logistical unit during a ceremony at 10:00 a.m. (CDT) on Sunday, Sept. 9, at the local armory in Pierre.

The public is encouraged to attend the ceremony and the following social event.

The new logistical unit, the 152<sup>nd</sup> Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, will have 460 Soldiers and will be headquartered in Pierre with subordinate units in Sioux Falls, Flandreau, Milbank, Aberdeen and Mitchell.

The 152<sup>nd</sup> is an addition to the state's National Guard force structure as a result of the Army's Transformation, where the active component is converting its force structure from a division structure to a smaller, lighter brigade structure. The division was the smallest self-contained unit able to deploy, but now a more modular brigade combat team is the smallest self-contained unit to deploy with multi-functional capability.

The 152<sup>nd</sup> CSSB provides management and support to three other units, including the 1742<sup>nd</sup> Transportation Company in Sioux Falls with a detachment in Flandreau, the 740<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company in Milbank with a detachment in Aberdeen, and the 147<sup>th</sup> Army Band in Mitchell.

The federal mission of the 152<sup>nd</sup> is to deploy worldwide and provide combat support to forces throughout the depth of its assigned area of operation.

The unit's state mission is to provide military support to civil authorities for emergency and disaster response as well as homeland defense. The 152<sup>nd</sup> is also designated to provide an initial response team for the South Dakota Women's Prison at the Solem Public Safety Center in Pierre.