

South Dakota National Guard

Public Affairs Office

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September 17, 2012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Guard unit returns from Afghanistan

FORT BLISS, Texas – One hundred and sixty Soldiers from the South Dakota Army National Guard's 842nd Engineer Company arrived at Fort Bliss, Texas, today after completing a yearlong deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Members of the 842nd will spend about a week or longer at Fort Bliss completing demobilization requirements before returning to South Dakota.

The Spearfish, Belle Fourche and Sturgis-based unit deployed in September 2011 with a mission to provide horizontal construction and engineering support. Equipped with bulldozers, scrapers, cranes, loaders and 20-ton dump trucks, the unit built and maintained roads, constructed base force protection measures and provided limited clearing operations.

No details of the unit's arrival to South Dakota or welcome home ceremony are known at this time. Details of the unit's arrival home will be made available to the public as soon as they are confirmed.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, please contact Maj. Anthony Deiss at (605) 737-6721 or cell (605) 431-8753, or e-mail ngsd-pao@ng.army.mil.