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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Support mission has smooth transition

By Spc. Danielle Hash, 103rd Public Affairs Detachment

RAPID CITY, S.D. – The 495th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion transferred its support operations to the 190th CSSB Monday, June 9, as part of the Golden Coyote training exercise at Camp Rapid.

In a small-scale simulation of deployment, the 50-member team from the 495th of Kalispell, Mont., arrived approximately one week ago to set up the initial support and sustainment functions for over 4,000 service members participating in the event. The 190th of Billings, Mont., took over and will maintain support operations throughout the duration of the exercise.

“We made sure the equipment was in place and operational so we could simply hand over the mission to the 190th,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Ronda S. Scott, the senior enlisted leader of the 495th.

The unit worked long days setting up the operations center, establishing support requirements and coordinating troop movements to the forward operating bases, said Lt. Col. Mark A. Boettcher, commander of the 495th.

Upon the arrival of its counterparts, Boettcher said the 495th continued to run operations and answer questions while the 190th observed and gathered the necessary information to ensure a smooth exchange.

“The process is referred to as RIPTOA: Relief in Place, Transfer of Authority,” said Boettcher. “Basically, one unit comes in and sets up operations, followed by a second unit that takes over and completes the mission.”

Lt. Col. Donald R. Emerson, battalion commander of the 190th, said the unit is ready to augment and run the exercise.

“The focus of the 495th was getting operations set up,” Emerson said. “Our focus is the sustainment of those operations, including tracking the logistics for food, fuel and ammunition required by the units on the FOBs, therefore enabling them to sustain themselves.”

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High resolution photos will be available at the following Web site:

LINK: <https://sdguard.ngb.army.mil/sites/GC2008/default.aspx>

Photo Cut Lines:

080608-A-8403H-002.JPG: Sgt. 1st Class Randal J. Hunt of the 495th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion (right) instructs Sgt. 1st Class Thomas B. Stevenson of the 190th CSSB on the operational tasks he will encounter during the 2008 Golden Coyote exercise. The 495th of Kalispell, Mont. transferred its support operations to the 190th of Billings, Mont., Monday, June 9. (Army National Guard photo by Spc. Danielle Hash) (RELEASED)

080608-A-8403H-005.JPG: Sgt. 1st Class Randal J. Hunt of the 495th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion (right) instructs Sgt. 1st Class Thomas B. Stevenson of the 190th CSSB on the operational tasks he will encounter during the 2008 Golden Coyote exercise. The 495th of Kalispell, Mont. transferred its support operations to the 190th of Billings, Mont., Monday, June 9. (Army National Guard photo by Spc. Danielle Hash) (RELEASED)

080608-A-8403H-010.JPG: Sgt. 1st Class Randal J. Hunt of the 495th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion (right) instructs Sgt. 1st Class Thomas B. Stevenson of the 190th CSSB on the operational tasks he will encounter during the 2008 Golden Coyote exercise. The 495th of Kalispell, Mont. transferred its support operations to the 190th of Billings, Mont., Monday, June 9. (Army National Guard photo by Spc. Danielle Hash) (RELEASED)

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION about the South Dakota National Guard, please visit our Web site at <https://sdguard.ngb.army.mil/default.aspx>

NOTE: The South Dakota National Guard will host the annual Golden Coyote exercise from June 7 – 21 in the southern Black Hills. More than 4,000 service members from 92 units representing 27 states and four foreign nations are participating in the exercise. The Golden

Coyote exercise has been conducted for the past 24 years. The exercise provides relevant training opportunities in support of the war on terror and homeland defense.

Residents should be aware of an increase in military traffic throughout the Black Hills and an increase in the level of noise due to military operations. Aviation activity will be operating out of Camp Rapid and the Army Aviation Support Facility next to the Rapid City Regional Airport.

Aircraft will be primarily training on equipment and personnel transport missions as well as medical evacuation. Aircraft will respond to real-world emergencies during the exercise and remain in an all-hours-ready status during the exercise.

Spectators to military training are welcome, however caution is warranted and spectators are asked to remain at a safe distance from all moving military vehicles and aircraft to prevent injury to personnel or damage to property.