

ROUNDS

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They know their mission, and they are excited about what they are doing to make a difference."

The 196th works in a more secure environment than troops in other parts of Afghanistan, Rounds said.

"It varies from one location to another. It's not like it's really safe, but it's safer than with the 211th where they come in direct contact with the enemy on a daily basis," he said.

"(The 211th) is responsible for route clearing in southeastern Afghanistan in some of the toughest areas of the entire country. They come in contact with things like the IED (improvised explosive device) and rocket-propelled grenades."

During his time with the 196th, Rounds ate lunch with commanders and troops. He also met with 300 soldiers, taking notes about the conversations.

The governor also asked each soldier to fill out a card with a

message. In turn, he is using the cards to send personal messages to loved ones back home.

"The first set of letters is going out to parents, wives and husbands, girlfriends, and soldiers," he said. "We are trying to get the rest of them out this weekend."

The governor's visit provided a morale boost for the 196th, said Capt. Anthony Deiss, a SDNG public affairs officer.

"Having Gov. Rounds here, along with the other state governors, shows me our state leadership is interested in our mission and the progress we are making," Deiss said in an e-mail.

"I enjoy seeing Gov. Rounds and our elected leaders take time to visit service members in a combat zone and to hear about their experiences and about the mission."

In turn, elected leaders can make informed policy decisions about the war on terror, Deiss said.

"By visiting troops in theater, our state and congressional delegation can get a better understanding of the challenges that come with trying to institute a credible government, develop its

infrastructure, maintain its security and change the hearts and minds of a people who have seen war for the past 30 years," he said.

"It takes time, resourcefulness and resolve to institute real change. Our state leadership, coming here to see and understand that, makes them more prepared and credible when it comes to supporting the National Guard and what we need to execute our mission."

Rounds expressed his thanks to the troops for their service, Deiss said. "To know our governor appreciates our service and sacrifice is well received," he added.

The soldiers are performing extraordinary tasks under incredibly difficult conditions, Rounds said. He noted the local soldiers are working in rugged terrain.

"Afghanistan is mountainous," he said. "Kabul, the capital, has an elevation of about 5,430 feet. It's in a valley, surrounded by peaks of 16,000 feet."

Unlike the sandstorms and "blast furnace" temperatures of nearly 120 degrees in Iraq, Afghanistan has daytime temperatures of 85 to 90 degrees with an occasional reading of 100, Rounds said.

Many areas of Afghanistan see conflict among rival groups, the governor said.

"The Taliban and another insurgent group, the Haqqani, fight for control of the countryside," he said. "They don't like each other, and our officers are letting those groups fight it out. Then we'll take care of it at the end."

Morale may be weakening among many of the insurgents, who could be won over by U.S. and coalition control, Rounds said.

"Ninety percent of the supposed Taliban's hearts are not in it," he said. "They are what are called 'Dollar A Day' or '\$5 A Day' workers. For a few bucks, they will fight for the Taliban so they have something to get by on. If an alternative was provided, they would be more than willing to work with the Afghans rather than the Taliban."

U.S. and coalition forces have taken out many of the Taliban's top leaders, Rounds said.

"There is the success we have been having in identifying and eliminating (their leaders) from the attack scene. Most recently, we have seen a dozen taken out in the last 30 days," he said.

"In one particular case, the Number 3 person for the Taliban in a particular district was taken

out three times in a row. The Taliban is having a difficult time filling that Number 3 spot."

Rounds also met with General David Petraeus, commander of the Afghan theater.

"They are using a new approach in Afghanistan with success," the governor said. "They are using an 'Anaconda' approach in which they set up a multi-faceted approach such as economic support, protecting kids and providing alternatives to the Taliban and the Haqqani."

The U.S. and coalition forces are seeking to win the Afghan's hearts and minds, Rounds said.

"We are emphasizing that we are their friends and not their enemy," he said. "They are getting to know the local people with a garrison of soldiers."

The U.S. and coalition forces are also hitting hard at the enemy, Rounds said.

"We are going after the Taliban with a vengeance," he said. "We are using the surge and are not going to relinquish territory back to the Taliban."

"I would rather be fighting the Taliban over there than have them secure a location and figure out a way to come at us," he added.

Rounds said he gained a greater insight into the daily operations of the mission.

"I came away recognizing that they truly are in a war zone. It's very dangerous, and yet at the same time, they handle it very well," he said.

"Time and again, we heard them say that they volunteered and knew what they were getting themselves into. But they added, 'We've got each other. We are a team and protecting one another.' They really wanted to get out the word to people back home that they are OK."

"I have admiration for these soldiers. They are the best of the best," he added.

In fact, the soldiers worry more about their families back home, Rounds said. "One of the young soldiers was looking forward to seeing his newborn baby," he said.

South Dakota continues to have a strong presence in the war theater, Rounds said.

"We have more than 500 soldiers stationed there, so it's no small group," he said. "They are on a dangerous mission. We need to pray for them to receive divine intervention."

DOWNTOWN YANKTON

CRAZY DAYS

Hot Dogs & Classic Cars

Saturday, July 31

Historic Downtown Yankton is going CRAZY! For...

Saturday, July 31

Historic Downtown Yankton Invites YOU!!

Car Registration: Starts at 7am with the "peoples choice" awards to be given away at 3pm

Cost: Free will donation

Agenda:

- All Day Crazy Days Sales Event
- 9:30am Academy of Dance Performance
- 10:30am Judi's Dance Studio Performance
- 11:00am-1:00pm **FREE** Hot Dogs Served by the Boys & Girls Club of Yankton
- 3:00pm Awards for Classic Cars

Come show off that cruiser, and enjoy the fun filled day in Historic Downtown Yankton!

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IN THE BASEMENT OF

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SATURDAY, JULY 31
8:00-4:00PM

*100's Of Books *Videos *Sports Cards
*Misc. Household *Some Collectibles
From the Store & Our Home

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212 Walnut, Yankton • 665-2067
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Great Deals on Furniture, Mattresses & Accessories!

Description	Was	NOW	Description	Was	NOW
Mission Bench with Storage	\$405	\$243	Brown 100% Leather Sofa	\$1,278	\$399
Black Accent Chair	\$280	\$140	Brown 100% Leather Chair	\$1,575	\$787
Black Bench	\$464	\$232	Brown 100% Leather Sofa	\$2,205	\$1,099
Barritz Side Table	\$372	\$186	Navy Leather Recliner	\$897	\$448
Tray Table	\$206	\$99	Leather Chair	\$1,200	\$480
Display Shelf	\$555	\$277	Chestnut Faux Leather Chair	\$509	\$199
Metal Cart	\$838	\$251	Leather Button Tufted Back Chair	\$1,170	\$468
Black Oriental Painted 2 Door Cabinet	\$490	\$245	Blue & Yellow Plaid Ottoman	\$624	\$124
Cherry Quilt Rack	\$49	\$14	Chocolate Microfiber Chair	\$864	\$432
Espresso Console Curio	\$1,065	\$532	Cream Chair with skirt	\$928	\$464
Painted Floor Clock	\$1,080	\$324	Cream Chair without skirt	\$928	\$464
White Wicker Ottoman	\$400	\$100	Floral Chair	\$828	\$331
Accent Chair with black & cream checked fabric	\$374	\$224	Floral Chair	\$624	\$249
Accent Table	\$269	\$161	Floral Sofa	\$1,116	\$446
Black 3 Drawer Chest with Marble Top	\$869	\$521	Leaf Pattern Chair with Skirt	\$896	\$358
Black Accent Table	\$269	\$161	Red & Gold Chair	\$768	\$384
Black Bombe Chest	\$899	\$539	Red Paisley Sofa	\$1,276	\$638
Oriental Chest	\$539	\$270	Red Plaid Chair	\$892	\$356
Small Console with drawer	\$299	\$179	Tan & Blue Floral Chair	\$1,200	\$299
Wine Rack	\$449	\$179	Green Chair	\$1,405	\$393
Queen Cherry Sleigh Bed	\$1,290	\$645	Animal Print Chaise	\$598	\$358
Cappuccino Distressed Pine Chest	\$750	\$375	Brown Bicast Sofa	\$761	\$380
Cappuccino Distressed Pine Dresser & Mirror	\$930	\$465	Red Striped Chair with Espresso Arms	\$698	\$279
Dark Oak Dresser & Mirror	\$1,510	\$755	Sage Microfiber Loveseat	\$599	\$150
6 Drawer Chest	\$1,196	\$598	Stone Microfiber Loveseat	\$599	\$150
Queen Platform Bed, Dresser, Mirror & Nightstand	\$2,934	\$1,467	Tan Microfiber Sectional with Chaise	\$1,451	\$870
Black & Brown King Curved Bed	\$2,544	\$1,272	Blue Chair with Espresso Arms	\$688	\$207
Black & Brown Nightstand	\$800	\$240	Black & Oak Coffee Table	\$556	\$278
Twin Maple Headboard	\$143	\$57	Cherry Sofa Table with drop down leaves	\$801	\$360
Mission Armoire	\$1,395	\$558	Square Cherry Coffee Table	\$916	\$366
Mission Nightstand	\$480	\$192	Faux Trunk Coffee Table & 2 End Tables	\$1,701	\$340
Chest	\$851	\$425	Oval Coffee Table	\$640	\$160
Nightstand	\$340	\$170	Cherry Oval Storage Coffee Table	\$537	\$268
2 Tone Brown 3 Drawer Brown Nightstand	\$447	\$290	Black Small Round End Table with Leather Top	\$285	\$142
2 Tone Brown Chest	\$1,038	\$674	Chairside Cherry End Table	\$330	\$165
2 Tone Brown Dresser & Mirror	\$1,326	\$861	Coffee Table	\$285	\$142
2 Tone Brown King Sleigh Bed	\$976	\$634	Inlaid Cherry End Table	\$375	\$150
2 Tone Brown Queen Sleigh Bed	\$897	\$558	Rectangular Coffee Table with 2 drawers	\$405	\$199
Twin Mission Oak Headboard	\$162	\$40	Round Cherry Coffee Table	\$405	\$199
Cherry 5 Drawer Chest	\$2,880	\$1,440	Square Black End Table	\$285	\$142
Cherry 8 Drawer Chest	\$2,880	\$1,440	Black Coffee Table	\$685	\$206
Cherry Armoire	\$3,408	\$1,363	Black Rectangular End Table	\$547	\$184
Cherry Dresser & Mirror	\$2,584	\$1,292	Black Round End Table	\$547	\$184
Cherry King Sleigh Bed	\$2,331	\$1,165	Brown Cherry & Glass Coffee Table	\$770	\$155
Pine Dresser & Mirror	\$808	\$399	Cherry Distressed End Table	\$639	\$320
Underbed Storage	\$476	\$95	Cherry Square Coffee Table	\$1,145	\$343
Oak Dresser & Mirror	\$1,545	\$618	Oval Coffee Table	\$373	\$93
2 DR Oak Nightstand	\$419	\$167	3 pack Oak & Glass Coffee & 2 End tables	\$381	\$190
42" Light Oak Formica Table with 18" Leaf	\$799	\$99	Cherry End Table	\$389	\$156
Black Granite Table & 6 Chairs	\$1,405	\$699	Mission Sofa Table	\$419	\$209
Cherry Server	\$975	\$488	Oak Coffee Table	\$241	\$120
Light Maple Chair with Leather Seat	\$222	\$44	Oak Lift Top Coffee Table	\$389	\$194
Oak & Granite Table & 4 Microfiber Chairs	\$1,495	\$748	Wood, Metal & Tile Coffee Table & 2 End Tables	\$599	\$359
Dining Chair with fabric seat	\$132	\$66	Bamboo & Glass Coffee Table	\$505	\$252
42x64 Cherry Table	\$2,111	\$211	Bamboo & Glass End Table	\$420	\$210
Cherry Dining Chair with cream fabric seat	\$198	\$99	Cherry Bamboo Leg Coffee Table with 2 Trays	\$539	\$215
Cherry Dining Chair with fabric seat	\$216	\$86	Round Cherry & Black Large Pedestal End Table	\$404	\$199
Wood & Metal Table & 4 Chairs	\$975	\$293	Metal & Glass Coffee Table	\$332	\$166
Cherry Queen Anne Sideboard	\$928	\$324	Metal Sofa Table	\$399	\$199
Leg Table	\$856	\$149	Square Golf Coffee Table	\$560	\$168
Pedestal Table	\$1,040	\$199	Brown Leather Office Chair	\$796	\$398
Vintage Arm Chair	\$199	\$39	Cherry Bookcase	\$349	\$209
Harp Side Chair Set of 4	\$760	\$199	Oak Bookcase	\$633	\$316
Cherry Curio/China	\$3,184	\$1,273	Cherry Desk with Hutch	\$1,784	\$535
Colonial Carved Fan Back Side Chair	\$560	\$280	Cherry Executive Desk	\$765	\$382
Round Cherry Dining Table & 6 Chairs with Leather Seats	\$6,304	\$2,836	Tan Recliner with Heat & Massage	\$670	\$335
Cherry Server	\$2,175	\$435	Tan Microfiber Skirted Recliner	\$1,740	\$348
Rect Cherry Table & 6 Microfiber Seat Chairs	\$2,353	\$1,177	Tan Leather Recliner	\$584	\$350
China with 2 drawers	\$1,117	\$726	Faux Leather Recliner	\$1,240	\$620
Rect Table & 6 Microfiber Seat Chairs	\$1,965	\$1,277			
Square Black & Glass Table w/Chairs	\$1,095	\$548			
Dining Side Chair	\$586	\$58			
Round Dining Set with 6 Upholstered Chairs	\$5,477	\$2,190			
Chair Dining Chair with Tan Microfiber Seat	\$172	\$86			
Rect Cherry Table, 2 Arm Microfiber Chairs & 4 Side Microfiber Chairs	\$1,980	\$990			
Round Glass & Metal Dinette Set	\$1,330	\$665			
Round Cherry & Black Table & 4 Chairs	\$4,536	\$2,268			
Eggshell Entertainment Stand	\$1,190	\$476			
Oak TV Chest	\$1,400	\$699			
Black TV Stand	\$717	\$358			
Entertainment Armoire	\$4,080	\$1,224			
Black & Red Painted Armoire	\$2,466	\$739			

Twin Mattress \$88

Plush	Firm	Pillowtop
Twin Set \$229	Twin Set \$279	Twin Set \$329
Full Set \$299	Full Set \$389	Full Set \$449
Queen Set \$429	Queen Set \$499	Queen Set \$549
King Set \$749	King Set \$799	King Set \$799

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