



NEWS RELEASE

South Carolina National Guard
Office of The Adjutant General
1 National Guard Road
Columbia, SC 29201-4766

Major General Stanhope S. Spears
The Adjutant General



July 11, 2008

MEDIA ADVISORY

COLUMBIA, S.C. – SC National Guard assists SC Fire Academy with airplane donation during special “joint training” event Saturday

South Carolina Army and Air National Guard personnel will assist the SC Fire Academy during a special joint training event Saturday, July 12 in Aiken and Columbia.

A Mitsubishi MU-2 aircraft is being donated by Air 1st Companies of Aiken to the SC Fire Academy. The SC National Guard will provide transportation and maintenance support to move the aircraft from Aiken to Columbia. The Mitsubishi MU-2 is a twin-engine turboprop aircraft with a seven passenger capacity and will be used by the State Urban Search and Rescue Team and the SC Fire Academy for crash recovery and firefighter training.



The SC Army National Guard’s 122nd Engineer Battalion will transport the aircraft from the Aiken airport to the SC Fire Academy in Columbia. SC Air National Guard aircraft mechanics from the 169th Maintenance Squadron at McEntire Joint National Guard Base will de-assemble the aircraft for transport and perform the subsequent re-assembly. Southway Crane and Rigging of Aiken will provide lifting support.

The project will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday, July 12 at the Aiken airport (129 Aviation Lane, Aiken, SC 29805) and finish at the SC Fire Academy (141 Monticello Trail, Columbia, SC 29203) that afternoon, time TBD (specific arrival time in Columbia can be coordinated with Major St.Clair, below)

Coverage by the media is welcomed and encouraged.

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**For more information, contact Colonel Pete Brooks, SCNG Public Affairs Office,
803-806-4327 or
Major Jim St.Clair, 803-806-4321 or 803-465-4311 (cell).**