Date: March 29, 2006

Contact: Don Smurthwaite, 896-5252

BLM Offers Reward for Information About Vandalism at William George Gravesite

The Bureau of Land Management, in cooperation with the Prairie County Sheriff's office, is offering a reward up to \$1,000 for information leading to a conviction in the vandalism of the gravesite of Private William George.

The gravesite was damaged by vandals last summer. William George was badly wounded during the Battle of the Little Bighorn in 1876. He died while being taken to Fort Lincoln aboard a steamboat. His gravesite is located on the Powder River Depot historic site, about eight miles from Terry, Montana.

"We don't know why someone would vandalize the grave of an American soldier," said Brian Cornell, investigator for the BLM. "We hope that the public is as outraged as we are, and that someone will come forward and help us find the perpetrator."

Persons with information about the vandalism are encouraged to call BLM at 1-800-826-3023 or the Prairie County Sheriff's office, 406-635-5738.