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(S.D.)-Ellsworth Air Force Base Movie Theater To Close



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 01/08/2013 08:39 AM

ELLSWORTH AIR FORCE BASE, S.D. (AP) - The Ellsworth Air Force Base movie theater is closing because an upgrade from 35 millimeter film to digital protection would be too costly.

Col. Mark Weatherington says that neither the base nor Army Air Force Exchange Services can afford the \$120,000 needed to upgrade the theater.

For years, the small theater has allowed military personnel, their families and base employees to unwind by catching a movie for as little as a buck. But Weatherington says that low attendance, even with first run movies, was already insufficient to offset the costs of distributing movies and paying staff.

The theater will close Jan. 21.

The base says Carmike Cinemas in Rapid City has arranged to give a \$2.50 discount on movie admissions with proof of military identification