

South Dakota National Guard

Public Affairs Office

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SD National Guard's 881st Troop Command changes leadership

RAPID CITY, S.D. – U.S. Army Lt. Col. Scott Linquist, of Rapid City, took command of the South Dakota Army National Guard's 881st Troop Command during a Sept. 11 ceremony at Camp Rapid.

Linquist, a native of Aberdeen, assumed responsibility of the Sturgis-based unit from Lt. Col. Michael Snow, of Aberdeen, who served in the position since September 2014.

As commander, Linquist is now responsible for command and control, administrative, logistical and training support for the battalion's nearly 230 Soldiers in 10 assigned units and detachments in Rapid City.

"I am truly honored and excited to be selected as the 881st battalion commander," said Linquist. "The professionalism and abilities of the Soldiers throughout the 881st Troop Command are the best in the nation, which has been proven time and again through multiple deployments and in support of our state emergencies.

Linquist's goals and priorities for the battalion are to increase the readiness of 881st units to support state and federal missions and to mentor and develop the skills of young officers and NCOs to lead the SDARNG into the future.

"Each unit in the 881st has a unique, exciting and demanding mission, and I'm looking forward to being able to provide our Soldiers with the most realistic training to ensure they are ready to perform their missions," said Linquist.

Linquist also stressed the importance families and communities provide in supporting the National Guard and expressed appreciation for the Soldiers that serve.

"I truly appreciate the support we receive from our families and the communities in which we serve," he said. "I have been in the SDARNG for 26 years and never regretted the decision to support my state and the nation. I have the upmost respect for every Soldier in their decision to serve in order to ensure the SDARNG remains the most professional, competent and reliable National Guard organization in the United States."

A 1990 graduate of Aberdeen High School, Linquist began his military career in May 1990 with Service Battery, 2/147th Field Artillery Battalion as a 13B cannon crewmember. He held additional military occupational skills as an 88M truck driver and 67N helicopter repairer before attending Officer Candidate School in May 1996.

In June 1997, Linquist commissioned as a second lieutenant and branched as an engineer officer assigned to the 842nd Engineer Company as a platoon leader. He later transferred to the 1085th Medical Company and spent the next two years completing rotary wing flight training at Fort Rucker, Alabama, to become a UH-60 Black Hawk pilot.

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As a qualified pilot and medical service officer, Linquist would serve the next several years in the 1085th as a medevac team leader, air ambulance platoon leader, maintenance platoon leader and operations officer. By June 2006, Linquist was selected as the first commander for Company C, 1/189th Aviation Regiment and commanded the unit until May 2009.

After command, Linquist transferred to Joint Force Headquarters and served in several assignments to include Computer Network Defense Team chief, IT Support and Services Branch chief and the G3 Air Operations officer.

Linquist has completed several deployments during his career to include deployments to Bosnia-Herzegovina in 2002, Iraq/Kuwait in 2011-2012 and a peacekeeping mission to Nicaragua in 2007.

Linquist currently works full time for the SDARNG at Camp Rapid as the deputy chief information officer.

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High resolution photos are available at www.flickr.com/photos/southdakotationalguard



Lt. Col. Scott Linquist: (U.S. Army National Guard file photo)



160911-Z-FO002-111: U.S. Army Col. Mike Oster, left, 109th Regional Support Group commander, South Dakota Army National Guard, passes the 881st Troop Command colors to Lt. Col. Scott Linquist, in coming commander, during the unit's change of command ceremony, Sept. 11, 2016, at Camp Rapid in Rapid City, S.D. Linquist assumed command from Lt. Col. Mike Snow and is now responsible for command and control, administrative, logistical and training support for the battalion's nearly 230 Soldiers in 10 assigned units and detachments in Rapid City. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Spc. Carl Johnson)



160911-Z-FO002-057: U.S. Army Col. Mike Oster, left, 109th Regional Support Group commander, South Dakota Army National Guard, presents Lt. Col. Mike Snow, out going commander of the 881st Troop Command, with the Meritorious Service Medal for his service while in command of the 881st during the unit's change of command ceremony, Sept. 11, 2016, at Camp Rapid in Rapid City, S.D. Snow relinquished command to Lt. Col. Scott Linquist who is now responsible for command and control, administrative, logistical and training support for the battalion's nearly 230 Soldiers in 10 assigned units and detachments in Rapid City. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Spc. Carl Johnson)

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