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Mission Command Center of Excellence welcomes new leader

Brig. Gen. James Mingus assumes responsibility as director of the Mission Command Center of Excellence.

Christopher Burnett | Staff Writer

Brig. Gen. James Mingus assumed responsibility as director of the Mission Command Center of Excellence, Combined Arms Center, during a ceremony Sept. 26 at Frontier Conference Center.

Mingus comes to MC CoE after serving as deputy commanding general, maneuver, 4th Infantry Division, at Fort Carson, Colo.

He replaces Brig. Gen. Willard Bursleson III, who departed in April to become the senior adviser to the Ministry of Defense, U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, Operation Freedom's Sentinel, Afghanistan. MC CoE Deputy Director Thomas Jordan served as acting director until Mingus' assumption.

In his introductory remarks, Lt. Gen. Michael Lundy, commanding general of CAC and Fort Leavenworth, welcomed Mingus and his family to the Fort Leavenworth team.

The ceremony signified the mantle of leadership being passed, and with it, the responsibility for the soldiers and Department of the Army civilians assigned to the organization.

"When you think about what Mission Command Center of Excellence does — mission command, the Army profession, leadership and our doctrine; you have to ask the question of what type of leader you need in that organization," Lundy said. "Brigadier General Jim Mingus is the right leader to join this team", he continued.

Mingus enlisted into the Iowa Army National Guard in 1981. He was commissioned in the Field Artillery in 1985 from Winona State University and later branched Infantry after he entered active duty in 1987. During more than 34 years of service, Mingus has commanded at every echelon from company to brigade in addition to working in key staff positions in both Army Special Operations Forces and joint units.

In August 2010, Mingus assumed command of 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, where he deployed the brigade in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Mingus has deployed in support of EOF and Operation Iraqi Freedom 12 times from 2001 to 2012.

Following brigade command, Mingus served as the director of the Commander's Action Group and subsequently the deputy J-5 (Plans) for U.S. Central Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Fla.

His military education includes the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Command and General Staff College, and the Army War College.

Mingus' awards and decorations include: Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Bronze Star Medal with four oak leaf clusters, Purple Heart, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service medal with five oak leaf clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Military Free Fall Parachutist Badge and Ranger Tab.

MC CoE develops, integrates and synchronizes leader development, Army Profession and mission command requirements and solutions to prepare leaders and units to successfully exercise mission command during the execution of unified land operations.

Visit <http://usacac.ar-my.mil/> for more information.



PHOTO/ PRUDENCE SIEBERT, FORT LEAVENWORTH LAMP

Incoming Mission Control Center of Excellence Director Brig. Gen. James Mingus, right, accepts his assumption of responsibility orders from Combined Arms Center and Fort Leavenworth Commanding General Lt. Gen. Michael Lundy Sept. 26 at the Frontier Conference Center. Mingus replaces Brig. Gen. Willard Bursleson III, who departed in April to become the senior adviser to the Ministry of Defense, U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, Operation Freedom's Sentinel, Afghanistan. MC CoE Deputy Director Thomas Jordan served as acting director until Mingus' assumption. Photo by Prudence Siebert/Fort Leavenworth Lamp