

**South Dakota National Guard
Public Affairs Office
2823 West Main St.
Rapid City, S.D. 57702**

**Phone 605-737-6721
E-mail PAO@sd.ngb.army.mil**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Deployed Soldier “up in air” over reenlistment

BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan – When Rapid City’s Ryan Williamson committed to reenlisting in the National Guard, his unit commander made sure his ceremony would stand above all others – 10,000 feet above Afghanistan moving at 200 miles per hour.

Staff Sgt. Williamson is currently deployed with Detachment 48, Operational Support Airlift Command, South Dakota Army National Guard, and is stationed at Bagram Air Base, 27 miles north of Kabul. His unit, equipped with two C-12 aircraft, conducts flights throughout Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Williamson’s job as the operations NCO keeps him on the ground while other members of his seven-member unit are constantly flying missions. So his commander, Chief Warrant Officer Jerry Duba, decided to take his reenlistment ceremony into the air where he could administer the oath while other members witnessed the event.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION, please contact Maj. Orson Ward at (605) 737-6721, cell (605) 431-8753.

Photo Cut Line: BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan - Staff Sgt. Ryan Williamson (left) of Rapid City takes the oath of reenlistment from Chief Warrant Officer Jerry Duba (right) on March 18 aboard one of the unit’s C-12 aircraft at 10,000 feet above Afghanistan moving at 200 miles per hour. Staff Sgt. Williamson is currently deployed with Detachment 48, Operational Support Airlift Command, South Dakota Army National Guard, and is stationed Bagram Air Base, 27 miles north of Kabul. His unit, equipped with two C-12 aircraft, conducts flights throughout Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. (Courtesy photo from the South Dakota National Guard)(Released)

Link to Photo: https://sdguard.ngb.army.mil/released/Williamson_1.JPG

Photo Cut Line: BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan – Staff Sgt. Ryan Williamson of Rapid City is back on the ground after taking the oath of reenlistment on March 18 aboard one of the unit’s C-12 aircraft at 10,000 feet above Afghanistan moving at 200 miles per hour. Staff Sgt. Williamson is currently deployed with Detachment 48, Operational Support Airlift Command, South Dakota Army National Guard, and is stationed Bagram Air Base, 27 miles north of Kabul. His unit, equipped with two C-12 aircraft, conducts flights throughout Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. (Courtesy photo from the South Dakota National Guard)(Released)

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