



U.S. ARMY JOHN F. KENNEDY
SPECIAL WARFARE CENTER AND SCHOOL
The Special Operations Center of Excellence

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR LIONEL A. STRONG

Command Sergeant Major

Command Sergeant Major Lionel A. Strong is a native of Fort Myers, Florida and enlisted in the United States Army July 9, 1998 as a 63B Light-Wheel Vehicle Mechanic. Upon completion of Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training, Command Sgt. Maj. Strong was assigned to Schofield Barracks Hawaii from December 1998 thru March 2001. Command Sgt. Maj. Strong attended Special Forces Assessment and Selection in September 2000 and the Special Forces Qualification Course from June 2001 through December 2002.



Upon successful completion of The SFQC, Command Sgt. Maj. Strong was assigned to Company C, 3rd BN, 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne). While assigned to 1st SFG (A), Command Sgt. Maj. Strong served as a junior and senior Engineer Sergeant from December 2002 through March 2007. Command Sgt. Maj. Strong was subsequently assigned to 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) from 2008 through June 2017. While assigned 3rd SFG (A), he served in numerous positions ranging from Senior Engineer Sergeant, Special Operations Detachment Alpha Operations Sergeant, Group Headquarters and Headquarters Company First Sergeant, and Company Sergeant Major. Command Sgt. Maj. Strong was later assigned to the 1st Special Forces Command (A) where he served as the G3 Operations Sergeant Major from June 2017 through June 2018. His follow-on assignment was to 1st Battalion, 7th Special Forces Group (A) as BN Command Sergeant Major from July 2018 thru July 2020. Command Sgt. Maj. Strong recently served as the as the 3rd SFG (A) Command Sergeant Major from July 2020 thru July 2022.

Strong has participated in numerous combat deployments and Theater Security Cooperation Program events across the United States Central Command, Africa Command, Southern Command and Indo-Pacific Command to include numerous deployments to both Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with three oak-leaf clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with three oak-leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal with Valor Device, Army Achievement Medal with six oak-leaf clusters, Good Conduct Medal, Joint Service Accommodation Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Expeditionary Medal, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Afghan Campaign Medal, NATO Ribbon, and National Defense Service Ribbon. Command Sgt. Maj. Strong is also a recipient of the Bronze Order Saint Philip Neri Award.

His military education includes Basic Airborne Training, Air Assault School, the Combat Divers Qualification Course, U.S. Army Special Operations Command Jumpmaster Course, Special Forces Advanced Reconnaissance Target Analysis and Exploitation Techniques Course Level C Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape School, RANGER School, the Joint Special Operations Forces Senior Enlisted Academy, the United States Army Sergeant Majors Academy nonresident course, and the Joint Special Operations Summit Course.

Strong has also earned a Master's Degree in Strategic Studies from the National Defense University

Strong resides in Whispering Pine, North Carolina with his wife Cassie and daughters Rebecca and Elizabeth.