

Staff Sgt. Rodney O. Cabebe

Special Operations Command (USASOC)



Assigned Unit: A Company, Special Operations Training Battalion

Military Occupational Specialty: Radio and Communications Security Repairer (94E)

Hometown: Honolulu, Hawaii

Year of Enlistment: 2002

What were your job responsibilities while deployed?

When deployed, I'm in equipment and personnel accountability, aircraft maintenance, and supporting unit mission success.

What is the most interesting thing about your time deployed that you want to share with the American People?

During deployments, I realized the importance of my role as a NCO. Each MOS, no matter what it is, greatly affects all aspects of the mission.

Do you have any family members who have served or are serving in the military?

My brother is a lightweight vehicle mechanic in the Hawaii Army National Guard.

What military awards and achievements have you received or accomplished?

My awards include four ARCOMs, two AAMs, five COAs, and three Good Conduct Medals.

Why did you join the Army?

I joined the Army to serve and positively impact the American nation, to challenge myself, and to provide for my Family.

Why did you choose your MOS?

I chose my MOS because the job description as an avionics communication equipment repairer seemed challenging, and with the experience would be provide many related job opportunities when I retire or choose to ETS.

What motivated you to compete in the DA level Best Warrior Competition?

I wanted to represent my unit and see how I compared to other high-speed noncommissioned officers in the Army.

If successful in accomplishing your goal as one of the Army's Best Warriors, what do you think your role would be in representing the Army?

If successful, I would be a spokesperson and role model for junior enlisted Soldiers to emulate. I would have to share my experience and struggles in the Army, promote the Army's mission, and explain to others that hard work goes a long way.

Who is your professional mentor?

Sgt. 1st Class Ted Sager, Robert Gardner III, and Sgt. Christopher Wilkes are my professional mentors.

How did your mentor(s) help you in your professional career?

They helped me train hard and pushed me past my limits, shared experiences and words of wisdom, and always looked out for me

Who or what inspires you?

Receiving the support and seeing the smiles from my Family's faces throughout my journey in the Army, knowing they will always be proud of me, and that I am someone my children can look up to is what inspires me.

What are your military career goals for the future?

I would like to be provided the opportunity to become a rotary wing aviator for the 1160th SOAR(A).

What was the biggest challenge along the way to get to this level of competition?

Preparing for this competition is the biggest challenge, knowing my pregnant wife is due the week after the competition ends.

Who is your Sponsor? How did they help prepare you for this level of competition?

Sgt. 1st Class Ted Sager is my sponsor. He kept the pressure on me to study, train or learn something new every day.

What will be the most challenging event for you? Why?

They would have to say the mystery event is most challenging because I would not know what or how to prepare for it.

What do you think will be your best/favorite event? Why?

The weapons event is my favorite because it's fun and it gives me an adrenaline rush.

What are some significant facts about you that are not known by others; i.e. interesting stories, unique hobbies or accomplishments?

I am from Hawaii and I struggled to pass the dunker swim test.

What are your hobbies/special interests?

My hobbies are lifting weights, traveling, eating, and spending time with my Family.