

Sgt. 1st Class Jesse Murray

U.S. Army Africa (USARAF)



Assigned Unit: U.S. Army Africa, Vicenza, Italy

Military Occupational Specialty: Infantry (11B)

Hometown: Cape Coral, Fla.

Year of Enlistment: 2002

What were your job responsibilities while deployed?

While deployed, I'm a rifleman, team leader, vehicle commander, and squad leader.

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

Nothing in particular.

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

Yes, I have family in the military.

What military awards and achievements have you received or accomplished?

I'm most proud of my time serving as a Drill Sergeant and Sergeant Morales Club President.

Why did you join the Army?

I joined because of family tradition and desire to serve after the events of 9/11.

Why did you choose your MOS?

I chose this MOS because it's the job I think of when thinking what a Soldier ought to look like.

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

The sergeants major of my unit encouraged me to compete.

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?

I'm not entirely sure.

Who is your professional mentor?

Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffery Stitzel is my mentor.

How did your mentor help you in your professional career?

He has encouraged me to take on my position as Sergeant Morales Club President, to participate in the BWC, and is working to find me a platoon sergeant position after I return from SLC in December.

Who or what inspires you?

Each of my fellow Soldiers have a quality they excel at which I appreciate and try to emulate.

What are your military career goals for the future?

I want to be a successful platoon sergeant, first sergeant, and eventually a battalion or higher command sergeant major.

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

Often work/family requirements and obligations prevent me from training as hard as I'd like to.

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

1st Sgt. Shawn Kisner has allowed me additional flexibility in my work schedule to train for this event.

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

Essays will be the most challenging. I have a difficult time writing the message like I want it to get across.

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

Warrior tasks will be my favorite. As a drill sergeant and an Infantryman, warrior tasks are where I excel.

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

I'm pretty much an open book. I like riding motorcycles and exploring Europe while assigned to Vicenza, Italy.

What are your hobbies/special interests?

My hobbies are motorcycle riding and exploring Europe while assigned to Vicenza, Italy.