



Inside SMOCS

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Sgt. Maj. Kenneth McMullin, Special Forces leader and Son Tay raider, memorialized at John F. Kennedy Chapel



Maj. Gen. Charles Cleveland, the incoming commander of the U.S. Army Special Operations Command, speaks at John F. Kennedy Chapel on Fort Bragg during a Jan. 31 memorialization ceremony for the late retired Sgt. Maj. Kenneth McMullin. The service for the Son Tay raider, who passed away Dec. 25, was attended by hundreds of fellow Special Forces Soldiers, friends and family members. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Marcus Butler)

By Sgt. Katryn Tuton
50th Public Affairs Detachment

Hundreds of Green Berets volunteered for the mission. But after months of preparation on Nov. 20, 1970, only 56 of them used the cover of darkness to infiltrate the North Vietnamese prison camp of Son Tay in an attempt to rescue 70 American prisoners of war more than 100 miles behind enemy lines. The raid was a tactical success, neutralizing hundreds of North Vietnamese Soldiers with only two minor injuries received by American forces.

One of these men, the late, retired Sgt. Maj. Kenneth E. McMullin was memorialized by hundreds of fellow Green Berets, friends and Family members in a ceremony at the John F. Kennedy Chapel on Fort Bragg, Jan. 31 to honor not only his role as one of the elite Son Tay raiders, but for his 32 years of military service.

"I am truly humbled to have served with him," said Brig. Gen. Edward Reeder, U.S. Army Special Forces Command Commanding General. "He embodied the spirit of Special Forces across decades of service."

In addition to Son Tay, McMullin served with 8th Special Forces Group (Airborne) in Panama, 5th SFG(A) in Vietnam, where he trained and led foreign personnel in airborne infantry combat operations and the 46th Spe-

cial Forces Company in the Kingdom of Thailand.

In 1974 he volunteered to serve as the operations sergeant major with 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg. McMullin also became a member of the Saudi Arabia foreign internal defense mobile training team, spent four years with Operation Blue Light, the Army's first counter-terrorism unit, and became the operations and training sergeant major at the Joint Special Operations Command, also at Fort Bragg.

He then participated in the planning and execution of Operation Urgent Fury in Grenada, before returning to Panama for five years. He returned to the United States in early 1990 as a company sergeant major for 1st Battalion, 7th SFG(A) and then command sergeant major of the activating 3rd Battalion, 3rd SFG(A) where he served as the rear command sergeant major during Operation Desert Storm. McMullin served as acting command sergeant major for 3rd Battalion, 3rd SFG(A) until his retirement in late 1992.

"You can't ask for a better Soldier," said retired Sgt. Maj. Joe Lupyak, a life-long friend of McMullin's and fellow raider. "He was a Soldier's Soldier. He was respected and admired. There are countless non-commissioned officers and officers that came up on his knee."

One of these officers is Maj. Gen. Charles Cleveland, incoming commander of U.S. Army Special Operations Command. Speaking during the ceremony, Cleveland

recalled his time first as a detachment commander and later as a company commander with McMullin as his company sergeant major.

"With respect to the other sergeants major in the room, I realize how honored I was to have him as my first sergeant major. He was the smartest man I've ever had the pleasure of serving with."

"As everyone knows, my dad loved to read and never stopped learning his craft," said his son, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Steven McMullin, assistant operations officer for 2nd Battalion, 1st SFG(A). "He filled his shelves with military history. But I know his prized books were about his friends, many of you here today ... All of his books signed, all marked with favorite pages and passages. The names once redacted are penciled back in, to celebrate his friends' achievements."

McMullin passed away on Dec. 25, 2011 and was cremated in a ceremony held by his family in Hermosa Beach, Calif.

His awards and decorations include the Silver Star, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star with "V" device and two oak leaf clusters, Purple Heart, Master Parachutist Badge, Combat Diver Badge and Freefall Jumpmaster Badge.

"We who had the privilege of serving with him know that he had plenty of medals pinned onto his jacket, but there were plenty more pinned to his soul on Christmas day," said Cleveland.



2011 SWCS Instructors and Civilians of the Year



GS-1 through -6 category

Andrea Kolda

Budget Technician, 4th Battalion, 1st Special Warfare Training Group (Airborne)

Andrea Kolda entered the U.S. Army in 2000 as a personnel services specialist. She spent her enlistment at Fort Bragg with the 18th Airborne Corps Personnel Services Battalion. She returned home after separating from the Army, and completed her Associate's Degree. She returned to Fayetteville to attend Methodist University, where she received her Bachelor's in business in 2009. While pursuing her degree, she worked as a human resources specialist at Fort Bragg's Soldier Support Center. Shortly after completing her degree, she took a human resources assistant position with A Company, 4th Bn., 1st SWTG(A), and was later promoted to budget technician for 4th Bn.



Warrant Officer Instructor of the Year

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Scott R. Gronowski

Special Forces Warrant Officer Tactical and Technical Certification Course, Warrant Officer Institute

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Gronowski is currently serving as a Special Forces Warrant Officer Tactical and Technical Certification Course instructor. Gronowski was pivotal in the comprehensive redesign of the 20-week Special Forces WOTTCC. He redesigned the rural portion of the end-of-course culmination exercise and designed instructor tools to actively track and evaluate student performance.



GS-7 through -9 category

Wendy Jernigan

Administrative Officer, Capabilities Development and Integration Directorate

Wendy Jernigan started her federal service in 1980 as a GS-02 tuition clerk at Frankfurt Junior High School in Frankfurt, Germany. In January 1981, she accepted a position at the Frankfurt Army Medical Center as a GS-03 medical data transcriptionist. In January 1984, she returned to the United States, and in April 1985 accepted a GS-03 clerk typist position with the Engineering Division, Directorate of Engineering and Housing (now known as the Directorate of Public Works) at Fort Bragg. In December 1987, Jernigan started her long career with Army special operations by accepting a position as a GS-04 clerk typist in the SWCS Inspector General Office. From there, she moved to the Directorate of Training and Doctrine in July 1990 as the deputy director's secretary, and in August 1995 became the director's secretary. In May 2004, she became the SWCS Chief of Staff's secretary, and later the SWCS Deputy Commanding General's secretary in August 2009. In December 2010, she accepted her current position.



Noncommissioned Officer Instructor of the Year

Sgt. 1st Class Corey F. Terry

Special Operations Combat Medic Course, Special Warfare Medical Group (Airborne)

Sgt. 1st Class Terry demonstrated a selfless attitude in his delivery of instruction to the next generation of special-operations medics. His sacrifice of personal time tutoring students that are motivated and challenged to learn is above reproach. Terry, a Special Forces Medical Sergeant, spent four years assigned to 1st Bn., 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne), where he served on multiple combat tours before his assignment to SWCS.



GS-11 category

Michael T. Tucker

Distributed Learning Course Manager, Noncommissioned Officer Academy

Mr. Tucker is a six-year veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces with two years in the U.S. Army Reserve/National Guard as a Field Artillery Crewman, and four years of active service in the U.S. Navy as an MH-53E Naval Aircrewman. In 2000, Tucker completed his Bachelor of Science in Business and Finance and Economics, with a follow-on Master's of Business Administration in 2002 and a Master's of Science in Instructional Technology in 2009. He has served with SWCS since December 2005. He is currently the lead training instructor for the SWCS Noncommissioned Officer Academy's Department of Digital Development ("3D"). As the Special Forces Senior Leader Course administrator for the distributed learning phase, Tucker has oversight of all department and academy instructional initiatives. He is responsible for managing 12 classes per year and tracking more than 1,200 eligible senior Special Forces NCOs through the Senior Leader Course. Most recently, Tucker has been selected as one of only two Department of Defense civilians in the NCO Education System Army-wide to attend the Visiting Scholars Program.



Civilian Instructor of the Year

Keith G. Bay

Special Operations Combat Medic Course, Special Warfare Medical Group (Airborne)

Keith G. Bay was pivotal in the most significant curriculum transformation in the history of the SOCM course, resulting in 28 additional training days. He has the unique ability to break down the most complicated clinical medicine instruction into manageable sections that facilitated students' comprehension. His instruction block consists of anatomy and physiology, pathophysiology, physical examinations and pharmacology lectures.



GS-12 through -14 category

David Farrington

Doctrine Developer and Analyst, Military Information Support Directorate, CDID

David Farrington is currently serving as a doctrine developer and analyst for the Military Information Support Operations Doctrine Development Division in the MISO Directorate of the CDID. Farrington is a retired Army E-8 with 21 years of active service. He enlisted as a light-wheeled vehicle mechanic and on his first re-enlistment reclassified as a psychological operations specialist. He served in a wide variety of challenging assignments in psychological operations including PSYOP specialist, 8th PSYOP Bn.; PSYOP detachment sergeant, 9th PSYOP Bn.; Training NCO, U.S. Army Civil Affairs & Psychological Operations Command (Airborne); company first sergeant, HHC, 6th PSYOP Bn.; PSYOP planner, Southern European Task Force headquarters; and operations sergeant major, USACAPOC(A). He retired in 2004, which is when he accepted his current position at SWCS.



Team category

Budget Division, SWCS G-8

Leia D. Brunner, Gloria J. Ramsey, Virginia W. Ramsey, Angela Davis-Sally, Lora A. Henry, Travis D. Jackson, Dezella M. Peele, April S. McRae, Tina R. Poynter, Tara C. Savage, Petra C. Taylor, Cecilia T. Wallace and Jeanette Wideman

The G-8 Budget Division is a mission-oriented team focused on generating resources for SWCS while increasing fiscal accountability and visibility in order to provide commanders the greatest flexibility. This division was selected as the SWCS civilian team of the quarter for the fourth quarter of 2011. In that period, the budget division flawlessly orchestrated the closeout of over \$199.2 million in Fiscal Year 2011 funding, the largest ever, despite predictions of huge budget cuts.

Congratulations and thank you to all of our SWCS instructors, civilians and Soldiers for contributing toward a safe and successful year!



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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
12	13	TARP and Suicide Prevention Mandatory Training 9-11 a.m. JFK Auditorium	Robin Sage ends	16	Training Holiday	18
19	President's Day	Substance Abuse, Employee Awareness Mandatory Training 9-11 a.m. JFK Auditorium	22	SFQC Graduation 3 p.m. Crown Coliseum	24	25
26	SWCS Off-Site Begins (thru Friday)	28	29	1	Civil Affairs Qualification Course Graduation Ceremony 9:30 a.m. JFK Auditorium	3