

CPT Matthew Webb

TITLE: Assistant Product Manager – Southwest Asia

HOW LONG AT PEO EIS: 11 months

AWARDS / EDUCATION / OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS TO NOTE: MBA with a concentration in Project Management from the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA; BS in Business Administration, finance concentration from Austin Peay State University, Clarksville, TN; Bronze Star; Defense Meritorious Service Medal; deployment to Afghanistan and Iraq



**THE AMERICAN SOLDIER--
ALWAYS READY, ALWAYS LEADING**

1. HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU SERVED?

18.5 years, a little less than 10 years as an enlisted Intelligence Analyst.

2. WHAT LED YOU TO A CAREER WITH THE ARMY?

I received my GED when I was 15 and eventually realized a GED is not equivalent to a high school diploma. Without money to attend college, and no real future with a GED, I decided to join the Army. It wasn't my first choice, but even military service options are limited without a diploma. Plus, I wanted to travel the world and I have had the opportunity to do so.

3. WHO WOULD YOU CONSIDER TO BE YOUR MENTOR AND WHY?

MG Jeffrey Colt. I was his "temporary" Aide-de-Camp for 15 months when he was a BG. He dedicated his life to service and achieved a lot professionally. I was fortunate enough to have daily mentorship on what it means to be an officer and to always do my best, but also be willing to accept responsibility for failure. He viewed (recoverable) failures as hiccups that make Soldiers better and he was always willing to give the benefit of the doubt to Soldiers, as long as they were willing to learn from their mistakes.

4. HOW MANY PLACES HAVE YOU LIVED AND WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE?

South Korea; FT. Bragg, NC; Vicenza, IT; Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; Alconbury, UK; Stuttgart, DE; FT. Campbell, KY; FT. Huachuca, AZ; Monterey, CA; FT. Belvoir, VA. There were a couple deployments to Afghanistan and Iraq sprinkled in, as well as travel to Africa and other Southwest Asia tourist spots. Our favorite was Europe (IT and UK) because the food is wonderful, travel options are amazing, and we liked the area.

5. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE STORY OF YOUR MILITARY CAREER?

Airborne School, 1999. A new type of reserve parachute was just being introduced to the force and we were one of the first classes to receive it. The model, which has since been improved, is spring-loaded to deploy the reserve parachute. The instructor was telling us in case of a malfunction, we needed to ball our fist and punch the bag until the spring activates while demonstrating the motion for us. One of the students asked how long we had to punch it for and the answer was: "The rest of your airborne life."

6. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ARMY TRADITION?

I really enjoy the Army Ten-Miler. 2016 was my first year running it, but I've wanted to do so my entire Army career; unfortunately, I've never been close enough to attend with a unit. My second favorite is hearing 'Taps' at night while on post because it is somber and reminds me of the sacrifices made by those who were unable to come home. The music motivates me to do my best and remember that I don't have it bad compared to some of my brothers and sisters in arms.