

DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS REGIMENT



CSM JOHN CONDROSKI

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CSM John Condroski is the epitome of an Army Leader and Noncommissioned Officer, and through exceptionally meritorious and selfless service, professionalism, and leadership - he has been the standard bearer for the Psychological Operations (PSYOP) Regiment and our Army. This is exemplified by his 32 selfless service to the Regiment serving as CSM of two operational PSYOP battalions, two operational PYSOP groups, the first Senior Enlisted Advisor (SEA)/CSM of a joint service brigade-level strategic PSYOP unit, and culminating as the first PSYOP Commandant Sergeant Major, U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School (USAJFKSWCS). CSM Condroski embodies the Army values and Special Operations Forces' core attributes.

Throughout his career, CSM Condroski was chosen repeatedly for leadership positions which have greatly impacted the PSYOP Regiment including over 10 years service as a Sergeant Major, Senior Enlisted Advisor, and CSM positions. It is notable that during this service all the units he was a senior leader in were engaged in combat operations worldwide in the Global War on Terrorism. His outstanding mentorship, leadership, strategic vision, and ability to build teams are just some of the key attributes of his continued and successive leadership positions.

CSM Condroski served as the first SEA/CSM for the Joint PSYOP Support Element (JPSE), renamed as the Joint Military Information Support Command (JMISC) before its deactivation, a centrally-selected, joint brigade-level command. Beyond the standard duties expected of a CSM, he provided consistent invaluable technical advice to the commander of this unique organization, which had a direct impact on the success of the command's worldwide mission with strategic impacts. During its lifespan the JPSE/JMISC provided met a crucial capability gap by providing trans-regional PSYOP support directly to the regional combatant commands in direct support of U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) Global War on Terrorism objectives. It also served as the resourcing and coordinating element for USSOCOM's trans-regional PSYOP initiatives focusing on countering terrorism globally.

As the 6th PSYOP Battalion CSM, which served in direct support of the U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command areas of operations, CSM Condroski's leadership was instrumental in revitalizing a unit that had suffered from some serious personnel and moral issues. His selfless example and mentoring of the battalion's Soldiers fostered a tangible increase in esprit de corps and professionalism, as well as raised standards with the officer corps.

CSM Condroski was selected and served a second tour as a CSM of the 8th PSYOP Battalion. This battalion was in direct support of operations throughout the U.S. Central Command area of operations for Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM and was the command's Joint PSYOP Task Force (JPOTF) stationed in Qatar. Besides performing duties of battalion CSM, he was dual hatted as the JPOTF CSM where he provided excellent oversight of several theater-wide elements to include the JPOTF, the PSYOP Task Force in Iraq, the Information Operations Task Force in Afghanistan and elements attached to Joint Special Operations Task Force and special mission units, always ensuring that Soldiers were always taken care of regardless of location.

Selected over other CSMs, he served as the CSM of the active Army's only operational PSYOP Group, the 4th Military Information Support Group (MISG). In this position he also served as the active Army's senior PSYOP Noncommissioned Officer, and his 4th MISG tenure is marked for his superb mentorship, leadership and force professionalization the group and the entire active PSYOP enlisted career field, regardless of location or assignment. Subsequently, when the Army decided to activate a second MISG, CSM Condroski was selected to be the first CSM for the newly formed 8th MISG. Once again he was the example of leadership: he led troops through myriad activation events of this fledgling unit. Simultaneous to this he provided mentorship and leadership to a group that was heavily involved in the full spectrum of operations worldwide.

Soon after the activation of the Regimental Commandant Offices in USAJFKSWCS, CSM Condroski was selected to be the first SGM of the PSYOP Regimental Commandant Office where he set a tone for the professionalization of the Regiment. CSM Condroski successfully embodied a "one Regiment" mentality in all his work to ensure unity across the regiment in both Active Component and Reserve Component PSYOP regardless of Conventional Force or Special Operations duty.

His team building efforts have had an enormous influence on all those working Regimental challenges, bringing all of our PSYOP Soldiers closer together. His efforts in managing the PSYOP Assessment and Selection Boards has resulted in setting and maintaining the Regiment's high standards while facilitating the use of results to vastly improve the understanding of successful candidates furthering precision targeting of Regimental recruits. He developed and maintained a collaborative working relationship with the Special Operations Recruiting Battalion leading to an increase in PSYOP recruiters to increase Regimental recruits. He also developed the Prior Service Accessions Program (targeting recently separated or reserve personnel) into a viable source of highly qualified PSYOP Soldiers.

He was instrumental in the development of MISO advanced and specialty skills, PSYOP Specialist Course redesign and full integration of PSYOP tasks into various Special Warfare courses. Finally, he ensured that the development of the Expert PSYOP Badge would serve as an amazing training venue and serve not only as a mark of expert distinction but also a tool to unify the active and reserve component PSYOP forces into the sense of one Regiment.

Within the Regiment SGM Condroski served successfully in numerous leadership positions including Team Leader, Squad Leader, Platoon Sergeant, Battalion Operations Sergeant, First Sergeant, SGM, SEA and CSM. He deployed in support of and participated in numerous exercises and named operations, as well as combat operations in Operations DESERT SHIELD, DESERT STORM, ENDURING FREEDOM, and IRAQI FREEDOM. He also served admirably as the USAJFKSWCS PSYOP Personnel Proponency Senior Career Manager. He positively affected the careers of over 7,000 active duty and reserve component personnel, and this coupled with his operational assignments has impacted across the Army and joint environments. In that particular position, CSM Condroski was responsible for the education, promotion, career life cycle model, accession standards, and training strategies for the Army's active and reserve component forces, while taking into consideration the unique needs of each component. He ensured that all requirements received full consideration, thus directly influencing the shape, utilization and professionalism of the entire Regiment.

CSM Condroski has also been instrumental in his volunteer work to the Regiment. He is one of the founding members of the PSYOP Regimental Association (PRA) when it was established in 2004. Once again, his leadership and teambuilding skills were called upon, where he was integral in all that is required to establish a nonprofit organization, from writing the initial bylaws, building the organization administratively, to fundraising. During a period of difficult turmoil, he helped lead the organization through it, and successfully kept it together and emerge as the strong organization it is now. He has dedicated countless volunteer hours to the PRA and its mission as a private nonprofit veteran's service organization to become a premier PSYOP Regiment advocate. He continues his service as the PRA's Active Component Liaison.

After his retirement from Active Duty, CSM Condroski is continuing his service to the PSYOP Regiment and Army Special Operations as a Department of the Army Civilian Protocol Officer with the 1st Special Forces Command.