

# DISTINGUISHED MEMBER OF THE SPECIAL FORCES REGIMENT



**COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR  
JOSEPH L. DENNISON**

Inducted 13 August 2010



CSM Dennison began his military service as a Heavy Weapons Infantryman in the 82nd Airborne Division and since has served in a variety of assignments around the world, some of those being 8th Infantry Division as a Combat Engineer Squad Leader, and Atomic Demolition Team Chief. In 1965 he volunteered for Special Forces, and after completion of the Qualification course was assigned to the 7th Special Forces Group (Intel Sergeant), 5th Special Forces Group (Intel Sergeant), 7th Special Forces Group (Team Sergeant), and USA Special Forces Thailand. From 1976 to 1983 he served in the conventional Army at the unit and Battalion level, Reserve components Reserve Officer Instructor Group where he was selected as the first Enlisted Commandant of Cadets in the Second ROTC Region. He returned to Special Forces as Team Sergeant, Military Freefall Detachment, 7th Special Forces Group, and later as Sergeant Major Company A, 2nd Battalion 7th Special Group. Other assignments, CSM 802nd Engineer Battalion, CSM 3rd Battalion, 4th ADA Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division, CSM 1st Battalion, 5th Special Forces Group, and CSM 5th Special Forces Group during the Groups move to Fort Campbell Kentucky. CSM Dennison returned to Fort Bragg and assumed the position of CSM 1st Special Operations Command which became United States Army Special Forces Command. CSM Dennison culminated his military career as the Command Sergeant Major, Special Operations Command Central during Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Upon retirement CSM (R) Dennison continued to serve our country as a Contractor for the US Department of State Diplomatic Security Branch. He returned to Special Operations as a Department of the Army civilian Training Specialist Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, United States Army Special Operations Command. CSM (R) Dennison recently ended his 45 years of service, retiring as Lead Force Protection Specialist, United States Army Special Operations Command.

CSM Dennison's military education includes the Sergeants Major Academy, Non-Commissioned Officer Academy, Special Forces Qualification Course, Combat Engineer Non-Commissioned Officer Course, Airborne School, Static Line Jumpmaster Course, Military Freefall Course, Military Freefall Jumpmaster Course, Special Forces Operations and Intelligence Course, Special Forces Weapons Sergeants Course, Atomic Demolitions Munitions Course, French and Chinese Language Courses.

CSM Dennison's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit (1OLC), Bronze Star with ("V" Device, 2nd OLC), Meritorious Service (3OLC), Army Commendation Medal (W4OLC), Army Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal (10th Award), Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry With Palm, Vietnam Service Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Special Forces Tab, Master Parachutist Badge, Master Military Freefall Badge, Pathfinder Badge, and Parachute Wings from ten countries.

CSM Dennison is presently serving as the Honorary Sergeant Major of the 1st Special Forces Regiment. CSM Dennison resides in Fayetteville NC.