



RETIREMENT CEREMONY  
OF  
MASTER SERGEANT  
JOHN M. ODETTE JR.

February 7, 2025

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## SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

*Invocation*

*National Anthem*

*Award & Retirement Certificates of Marine*

*Retiring Officer Remarks*

*Retiring Marine Remarks*

*Anchors Aweigh*

*Marines Hymn*

*Conclusion of Ceremony*

**2003**



**2025**





MASTER SERGEANT  
JOHN M. ODETTE JR.  
SNCOIC MCIEAST-COMMSTRAT

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Master Sergeant John Matthew Odette Jr. was born in Glendale, Arizona, on September 29th, 1985. He graduated high school in 2003 out of Jacksonville, FL. PFC Odette enlisted and graduated boot camp from Parris Island, SC, in October 2003. In July 2004, LCpl Odette graduated from the Defense Information School, Fort Meade, Maryland, earning the MOS 4671 Combat Videographer.

In August 2004, LCpl Odette checked into 2nd Marine Division Combat Camera, Camp Lejeune, NC, for duty as a videographer and photographer. Cpl Odette deployed to Iraq in 2005 and 2007 in service of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was attached to multiple units documenting joint and service operations across the Al-Anbar Province. These units included 1st Bn/5th Marine Regiment, 2nd Bn/2nd Marine Regiment, 3rd Bn/7th Marine Regiment, 1st/506 Army Regiment, and 1st/9th Cavalry Regiment engaging in humanitarian and peacekeeping operations in Ramadi, Fallujah, Habbaniyah, and Haditha, Iraq. Cpl Odette occupied quality control and video chief billets while at 2nd Marine Division Combat Camera.

In July 2007, Cpl Odette reported to Headquarters Battalion, Headquarters Company, Combat Camera, Parris Island, SC, for duty as a videographer and video chief. Promoted to sergeant in 2009, Sgt Odette held multiple billets, including training chief and platoon sergeant. He facilitated the creation of numerous training products across the Eastern Recruiting Region and thirteen subordinate Marine Commands, including suicide prevention, sexual assault prevention, Drill Instructor School, 6th Marine Corps District Prior Service Recruiting, and ERR-wide marketing products during the service's plus-up initiative. Sgt Odette led multiple teams to complete high-visible marketing tool videos in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Long Island, Washington D.C., Orlando, and Tampa, helping the Marine Corps achieve its goal of a strength population of 202,000 service members.

In July 2010, Sergeant Odette was assigned to Marine Forces Reserve, New Orleans, LA, for duty as video chief and platoon sergeant. During this time, Sgt Odette supported the Marine Reserve command by documenting and facilitating the reserve mission through coverage of multiple Reserve Annual Training exercises across nine states and the countries of Belize, Antigua, Norway, and Morocco. Sgt Odette additionally crafted and published multiple Reserve

Command instructional, motivational, and inspirational products with 4 Major Commands, the city of New Orleans, and the National Football League in support of 40,000 reserve Marines across 180 reserve units. Promoted in June 2013, Staff Sgt Odette oversaw and executed the movement of \$4 million worth of visual and graphic equipment into the newly constructed Marine Forces Reserve command facility in Algiers, LA.

In September 2013, Staff Sergeant Odette attended Recruiter School aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, CA. Upon graduation, Staff Sergeant Odette was assigned to Recruiting Station Jacksonville, FL, Recruiting Substation Valdosta, GA, in November 2013. While assigned at RSS Valdosta, SSgt Odette served as canvassing recruiter and station non-commissioned officer-in-charge, covering 17 high schools and three colleges in an area of 4,300 square miles. SSgt Odette coached and mentored five Marine recruiters to be successful career liaisons, ultimately recruiting 102 enlisted contracts, four officer selections, and three recipients of the NROTC scholarship, exceeding command contracting and shipping requirements by 104%.

In March 2017, Staff Sergeant Odette received orders for instructor duty at joint command, Defense Media Activity, Defense Information School, Fort Meade, MD. During this time, SSgt Odette mentored, led, and coached 15 military instructors, ultimately training over 400 military students and seven foreign military students in professional video production, photography, and video editing fundamentals. SSgt Odette was promoted to Gunnery Sergeant in July 2018. He would later submit an approved position paper overhauling \$10k of training gear and co-write a revised training curriculum for combat camera fundamentals to meet the DOD's new Mass Communication Foundations course.

In August 2021, Gunnery Sergeant Odette was assigned as the Operations Chief of Marine Corps Installations East COMMSTRAT aboard Camp Lejeune. GySgt Odette was promoted to Master Sergeant in March 2023, assuming the role of MCIEAST COMMSTRAT SNCOIC, where he guided the development of 23 enlisted Marines, five officers, and four civilians in support of the base Commanding General's communication objectives.

Master Sergeant Odette has one daughter, Marissa, who resides with her mother in Jacksonville, FL.

Master Sergeant Odette's personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal with one Gold Star in lieu of the second award, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with three Gold Stars in lieu of the fourth award. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Telecommunications from the University of Florida.

MAJOR  
RYAN J. POWERS  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
MCIEAST COMMSTRAT

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A Maryland native, Major Powers attended the University of Maryland at College Park, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish Language in May 2006. Upon college graduation, he was commissioned a second lieutenant through the Platoon Leaders Course (Combined). Following completion of The Basic School that December, he reported to the United States Army Military Police School, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri for training as a Military Police Officer.

In May 2007, Second Lieutenant Powers was assigned to MCAS Iwakuni, Japan as Provost Marshal before being individually augmented to Marine Wing Support Squadron 172 as Incident Response Platoon Commander and deploying to OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM.

Following redeployment, First Lieutenant Powers transferred to 6th Marine Corps District at Parris Island, South Carolina, serving in the Operations section until reporting to 2d Law Enforcement Battalion in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina in May 2012. Immediately assigned to Advisor Training Cell as the Executive and Operations Officer for Police Advisor Team (District) Nawa-ye-Barakzai, Captain Powers deployed in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM alongside 3d Battalion, 9th Marines.

In June 2013 Captain Powers assumed command of Company B, 2d Law Enforcement Battalion. In 2014 Company B deployed to Kuwait, Jordan, Oman, and the United Arab Emirates in support of OPERATIONS SPARTAN SHIELD and RESOLUTE SUPPORT. Following redeployment, Captain Powers relinquished command of Company B and reported to 2d Marine Expeditionary Brigade before transferring to the School of Infantry East as Headquarters and Service Company Commander in 2016.

Captain Powers transferred to the reserve component in July 2017 and was promoted to his current rank in September 2018. Major Powers served in the 2d Marine Division G-3 Current Operations section on active-duty operational support orders until transferring back to the active component in November 2021. In conjunction with this transfer, he conducted a lateral move to the Communication Strategy and Operations occupational field and arrived to his current unit in July 2022.

Major Powers' personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (4th award), and Navy Achievement Medal. He is a graduate of the Marine Corps' Expeditionary Warfare School (DEP) and Command and Staff College (DEP), has previously served as a commissioned deputy with the Beaufort County Sheriff's Office in South Carolina, and holds a Master of Science in Integrated Marketing Communications from West Virginia University.







*MCIEAST COMMSTRAT*  
*Thanks you for your service*