

## AIR FORCE SONG

*Off we go into the wild blue yonder  
Climbing high into the sun  
Here they come zooming to meet  
our thunder  
At' em boys Give'er the gun!  
(Give'er the gun hey!)  
Down we dive, spouting our flames  
from under  
Off with one helluva roar!  
We live in fame or go down in flame.  
Hey!  
Nothing will stop the US Air Force!*

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## U.S. ARMY SONG

*March along, sing our song, with the Army of the free.  
Count the brave, count the true, who have fought to victory.  
We're the Army and proud of our name!  
We're the Army and proudly proclaim:*

*First to fight for the right,  
And to build the Nation's might,  
And the Army goes rolling along.  
Proud of all we have done,  
Fighting till the battle's won,  
And the Army goes rolling along.*

*Then it's hi! hi! hey!  
The Army's on its way.  
Count off the cadence loud and strong;  
For where'er we go,  
You will always know  
That the Army goes rolling along.*

## CHANGE OF RESPONSIBILITY

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR  
**SILVESTER TATUM**  
&  
COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR  
**SHANE COOK**



JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS  
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI  
SATURDAY  
5 OCTOBER 2024  
1:00 P.M.





## COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR SILVESTER TATUM

Command Sgt. Maj. Silvester Tatum was selected as the Senior Enlisted Leader of the Mississippi National Guard (MSNG), April 1, 2021, by Maj. Gen. Janson D. Boyles and approved by Gov. Tate Reeves. Tatum is the principal advisor to the Adjutant General of Mississippi on all matters pertaining to a ready enlisted force, health of the force and professional development of more than 13,000 Citizen Soldiers, Airmen, state employees, and federal technicians. His primary area of focus

is to ensure the force is equipped and trained to respond to any contingency, natural or manmade.

Tatum enlisted in the MSNG in 1981, attending basic training and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Benning, Georgia, where he was awarded his primary MOS as an 11C Mortar Man/Indirect Fire specialist. Upon completion of his training, he returned to Det. 1, Headquarters Company, 2-198th Armored Regiment in Rolling Fork, Mississippi, where he was assigned as a gunner in a mortar platoon. In 1985, the unit cross-leveled to M60 tanks, then to M1 Abrams Tanks in 1987.

In December 1990, Tatum served stateside in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. He mobilized in 2005 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III as the First Sergeant for A Company, 1-155th Infantry Regiment. After the deployment, he was assigned as the First Sergeant of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-155th Infantry Regiment. In November 2008, he transferred to the 210th Finance Company as the Senior Financial Operations Sergeant Major and later deployed to Kuwait in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Tatum was promoted to sergeant major, March 28, 2009, and later appointed as a command sergeant major in October 2013. He transferred back to the 1-155th Infantry Regiment as the Battalion CSM. Then, in August 2015, Tatum was selected to serve as the 155th Armored Brigade Combat Team CSM.

In October 2017, Tatum was selected to serve as the second Land Forces Component CSM and at the same time, the acting State CSM for the MSARNG, and as the State's NCOIC for all Pre-Mobilization Training. In April 2019, he was selected as the Army National Guard G8 Sergeant Major and became the primary liaison to United States Financial Management Command (USAFMCOM) and to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Financial Management & Comptroller) Strategic Initiatives Group for all matters related to the operational Finance and Comptroller (FC) units across the ARNG.

Tatum has completed all levels of the NCO Professional Development System including the Nominative Leader Course and the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy. He has received many awards and decorations including the Meritorious Service Medal (4th award), the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, and numerous others. He is also the recipient of the Combat Infantryman Badge and the Army Staff Identification Badge. In 2023, Tatum was appointed by Gov. Tate Reeves to serve on the Mississippi Veterans Affairs Board where he honors Veterans and their dependents through superior service, care, and assistance.

Tatum is a native of Rolling Fork, Mississippi. He and his wife Kathy are proud parents of seven children – three girls and four boys, LaKeshner, Latoya, Kapalonia, Carl, Silvester, Sterlin and Stedman.



## COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR SHANE COOK

Command Sgt. Maj. Shane Cook began his military career in January 1993, attending basic training and advanced individual training as a wheeled vehicle mechanic at Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

His first assignment was with Company B, 223rd Engineer Battalion, Calhoun City, Mississippi. Cook began his Active Guard Reserve career in 1998 as the Training NCO with Company C, 223rd Engineer Battalion. Follow-on assignments

include Readiness NCO for Company A, 223rd Engineer Battalion; Senior Battalion Operations NCO, 223rd Engineer Battalion; First Sergeant, 289th Vertical Company, 223rd Engineer Battalion; Operations NCOIC at Camp McCain Training Site; Command Sergeant Major of the 223rd Engineer Battalion. He was assigned as the Command Sergeant Major of the 168th Engineer Brigade Oct. 1, 2021. Cook was selected to serve as the Mississippi National Guard's Command Senior Enlisted Leader Sept. 3, 2024.

His deployments and mobilizations include a deployment to Tikrit, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from April 2003 until February 2004, a mobilization in August 2005 in support of Hurricane Katrina response and relief efforts on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, and a deployment to Kandahar, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom from November 2011 to September 2012. His most recent deployment was to the Middle East in support of Operation Spartan Shield and Operation Inherent Resolve from March 2023 to December 2023.

Cook's military education includes the Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic Non-Commissioned Officer Course, Advanced Non-Commissioned Officer Course, and the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal with a bronze oak leaf cluster, the Meritorious Service Medal with three bronze oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with two bronze oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with two bronze oak leaf clusters, the Humanitarian Service Medal with a bronze oak leaf cluster, the Mississippi Magnolia Medal, the Mississippi Commendation Medal, the Combat Action Badge, and numerous other federal and state awards.

Cook and his wife Ginger have three children, Stacia, Jobi, and Jaxon.



## SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

ENTRANCE OF OFFICIAL PARTY

NATIONAL ANTHEM

INVOCATION

RECOGNITION OF FAMILY AND GUESTS

SUMMARIES OF SERVICE

SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF SPOUSES

PASSING OF THE COLORS

HOST'S REMARKS

OUTGOING SEL REMARKS

INCOMING SEL REMARKS

AIR FORCE SONG

ARMY SONG

BENEDICTION

DEPARTURE OF OFFICIAL PARTY

RECEPTION