

MAJ Kelly Svarstad

MAJ Kelly Svarstad was born and raised in South Dakota. After his initial enlistment as an Internment/Resettlement Specialist (MOS 95C), he attended the University of Wyoming as a Commander's Hip Pocket Scholarship recipient in the Green to Gold program. He was commissioned in the Ordnance Corps in 2005.

MAJ Svarstad's initial assignments were with the 10th Mountain Division, including deployments to Mahmudiyah and Yusufyah, Iraq (OIF 06-08). MAJ Svarstad was then assigned as a Battalion S-4, 43rd STB (Ft. Carson, CO), Liaison Officer, CJSOTF-A (RC South, AFG), Plans OIC, 43rd SB (Ft. Carson, CO and RC West, AFG), and Company Commander, (Ft. Carson, CO and RC East, AFG). He then served as the Chief of Operations, 479th FA BDE (Ft. Hood, TX) and Secretary of the General Staff, 13th ESC (Ft. Hood, TX). Upon promotion to Major, he served as the Chief Training Officer and Assistant Chief of Staff, G-4, 19th ESC (Daegu, Korea). MAJ Svarstad continued with assignments as the Enterprise Integration Chief, 10th Special Forces Group and Chief of Division Logistics Element, 4th Infantry Division (Ft. Carson, CO and Bagram, AFG). Prior to taking command, MAJ Svarstad served with the Mission Command Training Program (Ft. Leavenworth, KS).

MAJ Svarstad's education includes a Bachelor of Arts in Music, Certificate of Ordination (Non-Denominational Christian), Ordnance Officer Basic Course, Logistics Captain's Career Course, Command and General Staff Officer Course, as well as numerous military and civilian specialty education certificates.

MAJ Svarstad's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal (1 OLC), Meritorious Service Medal (3 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (1 OLC), Army Achievement Medal (3 OLC), Army Good Conduct Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal (4 Stars), Iraqi Campaign Medal (2 Stars), Korean Service Medal, NATO Medal (Non-Article 5, 2nd award), and the Overseas Service Ribbon (Numeral 6), the Combat Action Badge, and the Parachutists Badge. MAJ Svarstad has been inducted into the Order of the Silver Spur, is a double recipient of the Order of the Gold Spur.