

# COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR LESTER EDWARDS

## 108th Sustainment Brigade, Command Sergeant Major

Command Sergeant Major Lester Edwards assumed duties as the 108th Sustainment Brigade's Command Sergeant Major Feb. 8, 2015. His previous assignment was as the State Senior Maintenance Noncommissioned Officer with Joint Force Headquarters- Illinois.

CSM Edwards enlisted in the Illinois Army National Guard in 1980. He attended Basic Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and Advanced Individual Training as a Track Vehicle Repairman at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.

CSM Edwards has served in numerous enlisted leadership positions in the maintenance community as well as other senior enlisted roles in his 35 years of service. His initial assignment was to the 3637th Maintenance Company, where he served as a Track Vehicle Mechanic. He remained in the 3637th for several years, serving in various leadership positions, and was assigned as Platoon Sergeant for the Mobile Maintenance Platoon.

His other positions include Battalion Operations NCO, 232nd Corp Support Battalion; First Sergeant, 3637th Maintenance Company; Maintenance Operations NCO, 232nd Corp Sustainment Support Battalion; Command Sergeant Major, 232nd Corp Support Battalion; Operations Sergeant Major, 2nd Battalion, 123rd Field Artillery Regiment; Command Sergeant Major, Military Advisor Team (Logistics) 108th Sustainment Brigade (Forward); State Senior Maintenance NCO, Joint Force Headquarters, Senior Enlisted Advisor, Bilateral Embedded Staff Team (BEST A11) and Task Force White Eagle, Polish Brigade in Ghazni, Afghanistan; State Senior Maintenance NCO, Joint Force Headquarters; Commandant, 129th Regional Training Institute.

CSM Edwards has deployed four times in support of overseas contingency operations. He served in Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF II) from December 2003 to February 2005 as the Battalion Command Sergeant Major with the 232nd Corps Support Battalion. From July 2005 to October 2006 he served in Kuwait in support of OIF as the Operations Sergeant Major with the 2nd Battalion, 123rd Field Artillery Regiment. Following his return, he deployed to Iraq from December 2008 to November 2009 as the Command Sergeant Major of a Military Advisor Team (Logistics) made up from a forward element of the 108th Sustainment Brigade. From August 2012 to March 2013 CSM Edwards deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom as the senior Enlisted Advisor within Bilateral Embedded Staff Team A11 and Task Force White Eagle Command for the Polish Brigade.

CSM Edwards' military education includes the Basic Non-Commissioned Officer's Course, the M1 Tank Repairer Course, the Advanced Non-Commissioned Officer's Course, the Chemical Biological Protective System Course, the First Sergeant's Course, the Military Transition Course, and the Combat Advisor's Course. He is a graduate of Class 29 (non-resident) of the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy.

CSM Edwards' awards include the Bronze Star Medal with Valor, Bronze Star Medal (4rd award), Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal (2nd Award), Navy and Marine Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal (2nd Award), Navy and Marine Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal (2nd Award), Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (7th Award), National Defense Service Medal (2nd award), Iraq Campaign medal (2nd Award) Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal w/ silver hourglass and bronze M-device, NCODP Ribbon (4th Award), Army Service Ribbon (3rd Award), Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon with numeral 3, Illinois Long and Honorable Service Medal (5th Award), Illinois Lincoln Medal of Freedom (4rd award), Illinois Military Attendance Ribbon with numeral (17th Award), Illinois State Active Duty Ribbon, Combat Action Badge, Joint Meritorious Unit Citation, Meritorious Unit Citation.



**As of June 2015**