00:00:00:00 - 00:00:09:18

First name is Eugenio. Eugenio. Last name? Mendoza. Mendoza. And what's your rank in duty here?

00:00:09:20 - 00:00:21:03

My rank is SA Major, and I am on the operations Sergeant Major for A-Spec and Fort Cavazos. were you. Fort Liberty?

00:00:21:03 - 00:00:31:09

languages? I do speak foreign languages. I speak to speak Tagalog in the common pine in the Philippines.

00:00:31:11 - 00:01:09:22

Cool. Wow. That's very unique. That's super awesome. Okay. What is the mission of Security Force Assistance Command? So basically, we are advisors. However, I don't necessarily we don't necessarily advertise that with our peers and our competitors. We like to say we are advisors and we are working towards, interoperability with our partners, sharing, comparing, assessing and, and lastly, liaising with them.

00:01:10:19 - 00:01:41:08

Yeah. Why was Security Force Assistance Command stood up so well, I'll just say so when I say security forces. Right, Right. Okay. So why was Security Force Assistance Command Security Force assistant Command were stood up to be command of five excuse me, six brigades. That is first through fifth and 54th National Guard.

00:01:41:08 - 00:02:17:12

So what is the most impressive thing about security force assistance brigades? The most impressive thing about security forces since brigade is the mission. they're. They are regionally, regionally aligned to certain locations within the air. And what are the challenges of working with a partner force? The challenges are, language, for the most part, systems that we use and they use what they use.

00:02:18:17 - 00:02:45:13

locations, obviously. And, and, there is equipment. Nope. Equipment. So let's go again from the top on that the challenges of working with is not host nation. What's the partner for partner forces? Okay. The challenge is we're going to partner forces are language acquisition teams, equipment. There's. There's a lot of challenges. Yeah. Okay.

00:02:45:13 - 00:02:47:04

sorry to say.

00:02:47:04 - 00:03:08:15

The question is. Okay. The challenges of working with partnered forces, our language equipment system, location. And, I'm going to say for me, just, overall standardization.

00:03:08:15 - 00:03:21:06

I'm going to throw a curveball in for Chris here. Go for it. Those are the challenges. What are some things that may be I mean, I would assume the language there is going to be tough to deploy somewhere.

00:03:22:13 - 00:03:49:02

What is easier than you would have expected? good question. So if you could direct that towards, easy, maybe the easier, maybe easier to run would be less challenging. Like something that you didn't expect for yourself. Okay, so what what is actually easy is. So it's good both ways for, I would say, language. it depends on who you're working with.

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the lower the rank, they don't speak as English and the higher the rank they actually speak very, very fluent English. Anything else that may be cultural wise maybe is, you know, we we we're coming from Kansas right now. Neither one of us were born, grew up there. But a lot of soldiers might be from one town in Texas, and they get thrown somewhere out there.

00:04:16:18 - 00:04:40:00

Besides their training. Is there anything else that might come up like that that knows the part? Or. I was so excited to see some of the things. Sorry. No, you're too good. Okay, that's great. so to me. So I did not experience that. I would say, like, really, that that was probably the easiest part for me. Just, you know, thinking that we weren't getting.

00:04:40:01 - 00:05:12:15

We're going to have, language barriers, but, in reality, we, we actually didn't go. Interesting. Yeah, because we're hearing, like, the s that soldiers have in their lives just a little bit. What are the characteristics of a good that's bad NCO The good character characteristics of a good that NCO? A I mean, so we work a 12 man teams in, in, in our country.

00:05:13:03 - 00:05:43:05

I would, I'm going to say integrity and ability to be, to, to, to have loyalty to, to your country and be disciplined for the most part. it just because you're an ambassador to the United States and you make sure you are keeping your keeps always keeping your military bearing when 24 hours a day. So yeah, very.

00:05:43:07 - 00:06:12:11

And I understand it's switching now to like an eight month, 8.8 month rotation. Can you tell me a little bit about, like, what each what happens in each of those eight months? Yes. So the first eight months of our rotation here is our foundational training where we focus on individual individual training, where we develop the advisors of the necessary skills to be able to operate within the air.

00:06:13:16 - 00:06:51:21

and then our second phase would be the collective phase where we actually do team training, mimic exactly what goes on overseas, and assess their abilities to work as a, as a group. And then our, our, our third, would be our implement phase where we are partnered with partner forces and doing training with them and also sustaining our training as we complete the deployment.

00:06:51:23 - 00:07:19:16

Super interesting. I think it's such a cool and such an interesting mission because then it all starts again, right? Yes. If I can be right. So it does. It's a big cycle. we have our second generation s fabs where they go into a second employment. you know, they're better than the first time. Yeah. So that's my next question is what are the benefits of the stars being regionally?

00:07:19:16 - 00:07:20:17

A lot of

00:07:20:17 - 00:07:45:02

The benefits of being regionally line for, for one se fab. so I was in Fort that's fab and we, we were region aligned to, Yukon and our battalion advisor team were we're located in Poland.

00:07:45:03 - 00:08:19:05

And then the second time around, they were located again in Poland. So being at the same air every time, kind of, you kind of know your, your, stomping ground, you are able to determine the units of you've already worked for, during the past, some think that, that's kind of weird to keep going to the same place.

00:08:19:05 - 00:08:43:16

I think it's good because you've already made really a relationship with that, with a partner force. So seeing you for the second time, kind of, I guess, giving them the idea that, Okay, you guys like working with us, I think that says, sends out a message, a good message to them. Yeah. You have to love it.

00:08:43:16 - 00:09:14:21

I love it. And that's what. so it sounds like you've deployed with that as well. Yes. Okay. So can you tell me about one of your most successful stories from a deployment? my, one of my successful stories, or mission in, in SDI when I deployed, we actually assisted in one of the major training exercises in Europe, called Defender.

00:09:14:23 - 00:09:43:20

And, and we helped them plan, execute their training. And, and to me, I think that's a big part of, of advising, mission, where we actually sat next to a partner for us planned, all the phases of, of the exercise. And some of us were able to see it being executed, some were not, because we didn't go back.

00:09:43:20 - 00:10:15:02

I'll go back. but, but, but yeah, seeing them and, being happy with the product that we created together speaks volume. Good ending. Love it. How would you say that your work there was received by the partner nation? So, how it was received by the partnered forces. So in the beginning it was not received well.

00:10:15:03 - 00:10:42:07

So, they didn't like the fact that we were called advisors. and were they actually kind of in the beginning to kind of actually tender their, not backs on us, but attention and kind of put us, it pushes aside a little bit and so we had to go about it in a different, different way.

00:10:42:09 - 00:11:17:00

We were very, very, what a good word. anxious to, to be partnered with them. However, they did not seem like they wanted our help. And it was a just until, you know, their commander said, Hey, you know, this is what's going to happen, this is how it's going to happen. So everybody, every section, every fight, war fighting function was, partnered with a partnered force.

00:11:17:00 - 00:11:53:07

And we forced it. The issue where the hey, we did not want to sound like we were advising them or assessing them. Say, okay, show us how you would do these things. And we kind of then they started opening up to us and in showing us how they would execute planning and mission. And then that's where I think where we started to develop some sort of relationship where we we started steering them and seeing that, you know, they we didn't tell them this, that, you know, okay, they need help.

00:11:53:09 - 00:12:31:18

And I think at that point they started to trust us and and really, really asking feedbacks on what, and how the plan to plan a a better training and exactly what you know what I said from for a defender the defender training exercise, a big training shows I think was a good example of how we were able to assist them and, and, and advise them on exactly what are some of the things they can focus on.

00:12:31:20 - 00:12:59:00

What, when did they actually go? Because I know it's supposed to be 2020 and then 22. Was it 2022? Because I remember the whole time I was defender 2020 and then Tobin said, no. Yeah. So a part of that, so COVID was, it was, it was a big deal in Europe in 2020. That did not happen.

00:12:59:00 - 00:13:32:19

So it was, it was more I believe it didn't it wasn't as big as it should have been. you know, knowing what they knew about COVID and how they could still do training, I think we exercise the defender in all the planning conferences. So, so yeah, so how does a team assist me? I find really interesting. How does an S fab team hand over their responsibilities before they rotate back?

00:13:32:19 - 00:14:06:13

So like, if there's, you know, every eight months there's this movement. How do they hand those responsibilities off to, to the s to them, to who is the right, so the way the s fabs hand off, the award to another, another team, really? So we leave a contingent to a three man group, the states back, and, and actually shows, you know, what the Army calls the FC RACI Right.

00:14:07:11 - 00:14:40:17

shows the are the team exactly who they're supposed to be partnered with. showed them the area, locations where, training is going to happen. So we, we show them that we, we give them about, about a whole week to conduct that, introductory to the A or, and then once that happens, by that time, their whole entire force packages has arrived in, the last three guys of our force package is able to come back.

00:14:40:18 - 00:15:38:08

Didn't know that thing is the best. Yeah. Definition of. Yeah. We've had a good. That was good. All right. If you were recruiting somebody to ask to come join you, young person, what would you tell them? what I would tell a young soldier. What the benefits of being in an asset. I would say, being able to work in a small team, work independently within a country, have, being able to practice, being adaptive to the environment and learning a skill sets that, that they've never used before, being able to visit other countries, and, and be ambassadors to the United States.

00:15:38:11 - 00:16:01:11

I think that that's kind of big if you, if you look at it a big picture. I mean, hey, not everybody gets to do that, you know, And there are, there are countries out there that, you know, they've never seen a U.S. soldier before and you have presence there. So that's, I think that it's great. And the mission is, is, is evolving.

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And we are, you know, the premier advisors, they're coming to a country to help shape their training. and their army kind of is superior to our last set of questions here are about the challenges in the future for us that what would you say are the biggest external challenges that expats face? The biggest challenges that s, that face, continuously is.

00:16:40:01 - 00:17:34:10

Manning so we continue to the army doesn't fill our slots, we recruit, and that's how we get advisors. And without an advisor recruiting their replacement, it's kind of hard to, to keep the s fabs fully manned. there's some misconception about the fabs, whether it's, it's how, devastating to their career, you know, how, some believe that it's not, it's not a great place workplace to, to be at, you know, you work long hours.

00:17:34:12 - 00:18:08:11

I mean it's just, you know, wear them out. However, I think we are getting to now we're getting to the part where we are getting noticed by, by the army and what our capabilities are and what we're doing. And all the, are regional line countries. Super interesting. Thank you. So we asked if, again, you and I talked about just for a second, do do Russia or China have units like s fabs or do they try to mitigate as fabs mission?

00:18:08:13 - 00:18:42:19

You have to repeat my question. I just you can speak to that. I do not believe there is, China. I do not believe there are advisors in China or Russia similar to what we do. However, I look, let me repeat, I do not think there ha I do not think there are advisors in China or Russia.

00:18:42:21 - 00:19:18:04

However, I think there are, advisor jobs. I'm not necessarily sure if they are called advisors, because advisors they could, you know, do many different things. I just don't think they have, they have a specific unit like, like us. But any country besides peers. Right. does Great Britain, for example, have something like this? Yes, they do.

00:19:18:06 - 00:19:55:23

Yes. 11th UK they are, the, the Brits advisors and I think the Irish were helping Sten stand up an advisor brigade. Do we advise the advisors? I can't speak on that. I don't know. I know. Advising. Right, Right. Doing the right course. Of course. Yeah. The same thing. Yes. So that's just something I think it's just part of where everybody is coaching the basketball team is, but nobody's going to know who's playing good.

00:19:56:01 - 00:20:32:07

That's interesting. Okay, so this one is on T and this one up for you. Just knock out of the park for sure. why does the United States Army need s fans? the the United States Army needs s abs, I believe. And I was a firm believer in the beginning before I entered the ASVAB. when, when, if, and when a, third world World War comes, we are going to be very, very important.

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We're going to play a big role in, in, in the air, having us there consistently, and being able to assist in, in bringing in United States military, advising not only partner forces and as well as U.S. forces who they need to be integrated with. I think that's going to be important. just because we're already there, we know the area, we know we know the people.

00:21:19:23 - 00:21:54:19

I think it's going to benefit if that time comes. I love it. Can we do it again? So why does the United States Army need assistance? The United States Army needs Fed. I mean, I believe in the next World War. We're going to be important. We are already in the area where we think that world war with, would necessarily happen.

00:21:54:21 - 00:22:33:16

We're in five different, awards. We are fully nested with our partners. We work, we've worked well with our partners. I think that that will assist in any military, whether it's the United States Army, where there's another army that's, in the native force. I think we are. We are. We'll have the ability to, to assist. and any given time was when I was you to

00:22:33:16 - 00:22:38:23

So why does the world needs fans?

00:22:38:23 - 00:23:19:19

So the world needs ASVAB because, not every army is the same. I mean, I feel, I feel that our army is one of the best military, in the world and we are able to assist in many assist and advise in many different roles. I lost my train of thought. So yeah, that's a really good test.

00:23:20:00 - 00:24:03:14

We're there to assist in advising many different roles within our capabilities is pretty. Yeah, pretty wide. So, so our, our last or we have one more thing I this. But what, what is something we should know about is that that we haven't talked about today. whatever mentioned about the fabs that's working, this fab opens you to a lot of skill sets and you rely a lot on your teammates and being able to not necessarily do your job.

00:24:03:14 - 00:24:27:01

And you also need should be able to or will be able to do their job as well because there's only, you know, 10 to 12 of you guys in the team and you're operating alone and afraid. you need to, you know, you will in you will need to be able to do their job as well as your job.

00:24:27:03 - 00:24:28:03

Yes, I'm going to

00:24:28:03 - 00:24:42:16

Campaign today to win tomorrow. That's good. Give me a little more campaign today to win tomorrow. One more time. Campaign today to win tomorrow, Roger.