

# Fact Sheet

## Headquarters, United States Army Europe

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## Public Affairs Sergeant Major



Sgt. Maj. Richard L. Puckett assumed duties as the Public Affairs Sergeant Major for U.S. Army Europe on March 11, 2015.

As the US Army Europe senior enlisted Public Affairs Soldier, he is a principal adviser to the Chief of Public Affairs, the US Army Europe commander and command sergeant major. He advises them daily on all public affairs matters that relate to the command's 51-country area of responsibility and its 30,000-plus Soldiers and civilian employees.

Puckett is a native of Bangor, Michigan. He enlisted in the Army in 1987 and attended Basic Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky. He graduated from the Basic Journalism Course at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. He has served in nearly every enlisted position in Army Public Affairs from journalist to the Regimental Sergeant Major of Army Public Affairs at the Pentagon in Washington, DC.

Before coming to US Army Europe, SGM Puckett was the Inspector General Sergeant Major at US Forces Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Some of his previous assignments include journalist, 9th Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, Washington; editor, Tropic Times, US Southern Command in Panama; editor, Fort Hood Sentinel and detachment sergeant for the 13th Public Affairs Detachment at Fort Hood, Texas; Materiel and Doctrine Developer at the Army Public Affairs Center at Fort Meade Maryland; Team leader and first sergeant of the 22nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, Fort Bragg; Public Affairs Adviser to the 12th and 13th Sergeants Major of the Army; Public Affairs SGM at US Central Command at MacDill Air Force Base in Tampa, Florida; Public Affairs SGM at I Corps and Fort Lewis, Washington; Sergeant Major for Army Public Affairs, Washington, DC.

His deployments include Kosovo as part of Multinational Brigade-East from 2000-2001 and Baghdad with Multinational Corps-Iraq from 2009-2010.

His military education includes Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course, Advanced Noncommissioned Officers Course, and the United States Army Sergeant Majors Academy (Commandant's List). Other military schools include the Editors Course, Intermediate Photojournalism Course, Advanced Photojournalism Course, Department of Defense Joint Course in Communications and Army Inspector General Course. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism from Excelsior and is currently earning his Masters in International Relations from the University of Oklahoma. His significant awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terror Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terror Service Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Army Superior Unit Award National Defense Service Medal w/ Bronze Star, NCO Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, the NATO Medal and Humanitarian Service Medal.