

MR. MICHAEL T. WARNOCK
Chief Warrant Officer Three, US Army, Retired (Deceased)



Michael Warnock enlisted in the Army in 1968. After initially training as a Personnel Specialist, he transitioned to Military Intelligence in 1972, becoming a Counterintelligence (CI) Agent. He was one of the first Automated Data Processing (ADP) focused CI Agents and used those skills to develop a CI/Terrorist threat database that drove the Allied Command Europe capability to counter emerging threats. Appointed a Warrant Officer in 1980, he was selected to serve as a CI Agent with 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment-Delta in 1982. He deployed during Operations URGENT FURY in Grenada, JUST CAUSE in Panama, and for SCUD suppression operations during DESERT STORM in Iraq.

CW3 Warnock retired from the Army in 1991 and immediately embarked on a 21-year career as a Department of the Army Civilian with the Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC). His Civilian service included multiple combat deployments to Bosnia, Somalia, and eight separate deployments to Afghanistan. During every deployment, he consistently provided accurate and timely Human Intelligence (HUMINT) to tactical and operational commanders. During his deployment with Task Force Ranger (Gothic Serpent) to Mogadishu, he proved fundamental to the success of CI Operations, HUMINT support, low-level source operations, and operational security of the deployed forces. He mentored and led local law enforcement personnel during high-risk operations and personally caused the capture of over \$4M in US currency intended to support the revolutionary faction.

In the spring of 2004, he deployed for the first time in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM in Afghanistan, where he served as the Task Force Counterintelligence Coordinating Authority for a Joint Special Operations Task Force (JSOTF) working directly for the National Command Authority. He also managed nascent JSOTF detainee operations. Between 2005 and 2011, Mr. Warnock deployed seven more times to Afghanistan as the JSOTF J2X. He adeptly managed HUMINT Collection Teams at 12 remote locations throughout Afghanistan. By teaming analysts with HUMINT collectors, he ensured a significant increase in the quantity and quality of HUMINT reporting. The intelligence collected by his case officers resulted in the capture/kill of numerous Taliban and Al Qaida personnel. He also led the force protection and CI support during the successful mission to kill Osama bin Laden.

In addition to repeated combat deployments, Mr. Warnock drove the command's force protection operations in the United States. He was the primary interface between JSOC,

the Federal Bureau of Investigations, and the Intelligence Community during a high-profile investigation that resulted in the conviction of a US service member for attempting to spy for China.

Finally, Mr. Warnock was one of the primary architects and plank-owner for the JSOC J2X established in 2005. The organization he built to expand CI and HUMINT collection and analysis within JSOC continues to support the national mission force more than 10 years later.

Mr. Warnock passed away in May 2012 while preparing for his ninth deployment to Afghanistan. His military awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal. As a Civilian, he also received the Meritorious Civilian Service Medal, the Superior Civilian Service Medal, Joint Civilian Service Commendation Award, the Commander's Award for Civilian Service, and the Armed Forces Civilian Service Medal. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2018.