

Sgt. Maj. Gonzales enlisted in the United States Navy in 1975. He completed Basic Training in Orlando, Fla., and Basic Radioman "A" School in San Diego, Cali. His first duty assignment was with the U.S Naval Commander Middle East Forces in the Persian Gulf. Gonzales' next duty assignment was with U.S. Naval Amphibious Group 4 based out of Little Creek, Virginia. Gonzales enlisted in the North Carolina Army National Guard Oct. 1979. His first duty assignment was with HHC, 1st Battalion 252d Armor headquartered in Fayetteville. During his eight years with the North Carolina Army Guard he also became qualified as Armor Crewman, Supply Specialist, and Chemical Specialist.

After enlisting in the U.S. Army Reserve in December 1989 he was assigned to HHC, 337th MI BN (TE) in Charlotte, N.C., as the COMSEC Maintenance Platoon Sergeant. In 1995 he was promoted and assigned to the Commander, 120th ARCOM in Fort Jackson, S.C., as the DCSIM NCOIC. Later he was transferred to the 81st Regional Support Group that had replaced the 120th ARCOM and served as the DCSLOG NCOIC until his promotion to sergeant major in Jan. 1998. The next assignment was with the 171st Area Support Group in Garner, North Carolina. He was mobilized and deployed with this unit in support of OEF/OIF in Feb. 2003, as part of the Liberation Force of OIF I.

Gonzales was appointed to the 1st/313th Logistical Support Battalion 189th Infantry Brigade in Aug. 2005. After his first command sergeant major assignment, he was appointed to his present position as command sergeant major in 2nd Battalion 311th Regiment 189th Infantry Brigade. Gonzales has two associate's degrees from Fayetteville Technical Community College and is currently pursuing his Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

His military education includes completion of PLDC, BNCOC, ANCOG, U.S. Sergeant Major Academy Class 27, and the Command Sergeant Major Course. His awards include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (2 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (3 OLC), Army Achievement Medal (1OLC), Navy Good Conduct Medal, Humanitarian Service Award, and Sea Service Ribbon.