Why I want to be an Army Officer

by: Mark Belgen

Everything great, every monumental achievement and each step forward has a cost. We must always keep putting one foot in front of the other. It's when we stand still that things start to pass us by, but like our great country is dependant on each person’s drive, initiative and ambition, so too are the passions and values that each and every one of us shall hold so dear and strive to live by and accomplish.

Throughout my education and travels, I have come to understand the principles upon which the United States was built and has flourished—a country of beliefs and ideals, of culture, greatness, freedom, and opportunity. Now that is truly something worth preserving, protecting and fighting for! I am honored to say that my grandfather served as an Army officer in Korea, as did my father who served as a helicopter pilot for the Army.

I am interested in serving in the infantry. I believe that soldiers are the foundation of the military and I want to be on the ground with them, leading them. I am also interested in Special Forces, an area where I believe our dynamic military actions are heading.

On 9/11 the evil specter of international terrorism materialized on our shores and in the heartland of our great country. Through the war in Iraq, we have seen the terrorists struggling to tear that burgeoning country apart and gain through intimidation the power to carry out another devastating attack against us. It is for this reason primarily that I would love to be a part of a Special Forces Anti-Terrorism team. I can imagine nothing more rewarding than the opportunity to protect and defend my country against the enemies of freedom and liberty.

Greatness, progress, and freedom come at a cost—a cost bore on the backs of each soldier who risks his or her life for our country. As a citizen of this country, I feel an overwhelming amount of pride, as well as a sense of duty and responsibility to do whatever I possibly can to help protect my country.

It would truly be an honor to serve my country, the United States of America, the ‘shining city on the hill’ and all it stands for. To serve and protect with honor and integrity, that is why I want to be an Army Officer.