



Aco HERO OF THE WEEK

SSG Salvador D. Murillo

Staff Sergeant Murillo has done excellent work with the IA elements based out of SE5, as well as doing sniper overwatch missions with other coalition forces. On a recent mission he took the initiative to mentor one of IA NCO's. The IA NCO was initially unsure of his duties while on patrol in AO Fife. SSG Murillo pulled him aside with the platoon interpreter and explained how to properly enter a house, what tactical questions to ask the residents, when to distribute IO, and how to control a team of soldiers. Within the span of an hour the IA NCO made a significant improvement and was entering/searching houses, while controlling his team independently. SSG Murillo helped the IA take a giant step towards being independent. Also on a prior mission SSG Murillo's sniper team conducted an overnight sniper position with a squad of Albanian soldiers to ensure that there was not to be any AIF activity within the sector. Under his leadership and technical and tactical knowledge of the area and enemy situation this mission was very successful.



HERO OF THE BATTLE
SSG MCDOWELL, ADAM
3rd PLATOON, BRAVO COMPANY
1-5 INFANTRY REGIMENT

SSG MCDOWELL HAS DISPLAYED TREMENDOUS HEROISM ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. SSG MCDOWELL HAS SET THE EXAMPLE FOR ALL SOLDIERS AND NCO'S TO IMMULATE. DURING COMBAT OPERATIONS IN FALLUJAH, SSG MCDOWELL USING THE COMMAND LAUNCH UNIT FOR A JAVELIN, SUCCESSFULLY IDENTIFIED FOUR ENEMY PERSONNEL ENGAGING COALITION FORCES. HE THEN MANEUVERED AN M1A2 TANK INTO POSITION, WHICH LED TO THE ENEMY BEING KILLED AND THE DESTRUCTION OF THE ENEMY FIGHTING POSITION.

SSG MCDOWELL HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED BY THE CHAIN OF COMMAND ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS AS BEING THE GO TO GUY WHEN IT COMES TO IMPLEMENTING LONG RANGE OPTICS IN IDENTIFYING ENEMY LOCATIONS. WHILE CONDUCTING COMBAT OPERATIONS IN THE PROVINCE OF TAL AFAR, HE SUCCESSFULLY LED HIS SQUAD TO IDENTIFY AND CAPTURE AN 11 MAN AIF, IED CELL. HIS QUICK REACTION LED HIS SQUAD TO FOLLOW A VEHICLE WHICH LED TO THE HOUSE WHERE THE AIF WAS HAVING A MEETING ON FUTURE OPERATIONS. HIS SQUAD THOROUGHLY SEARCHED THE HOUSE LEADING TO FINDING OF WEAPONS AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT.

ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, SSG MCDOWELL HAS BEEN CALLED ON TO SERVE AS THE PLATOON SERGEANT DURING COMBAT OPERATIONS IN MOSUL, IRAQ. DURING DAILY PATROLS, SSG MCDOWELL'S ABILITY TO RELAY INFORMATION TO HIGHER, GROUND FORCES AND MANUEVER AVIATION ASSETS ARE CRITICAL FOR THIS HIGHLY DIGITAL STRYKER PLATOON. HIS ABILITY TO FILL IN AND COMPLETE ANY TASK ASSIGNED TO HIM AS THE PLATOON SERGEANT HAS LED THE PLATOON TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE SMOOTHLY. SSG MCDOWELL'S PHYSICAL AND MENTAL TOUGHNESS HAS LED HIM CONDUCT AND COMPLETE OVER 250 COMBAT PATROLS. HIS ABILITY TO MOTIVATE HIS SQUAD TO COMPLETE THE MISSION, EVEN UNDER DIRECT FIRE CONTACT HAS LED HIM TO BE RECOGNIZED AS THE BEST SQUAD

LEADER IN PLATOON, AND ONE OF THE BEST IN THE BATTALION. HE HAS BEEN CALLED ON SEVERAL TIMES BY THE CHAIN OF COMMAND TO SHARE HIS EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE TO ASSIST THE PLATOON AND COMPANY IN DAY TO DAY OPERATIONS. HIS ACTIONS THROUGHOUT COMBAT, HAS MADE HIM THE IDEA SOLDIER, A TRUE HERO.

**SFC WILLIAMS, ANDRE
PLATOON SERGEANT
B CO 1-5 INF
DM37**

Cco Hero of the Week
SGT COON, SHAWN



SGT Coon serves as many different positions on a day to day basis for Charlie Company's Headquarters element. He performs duties as a Stryker driver, a vehicle commander, and also serves as a personal security soldier for the company commander. SGT Coon takes responsibility for each of these duties and goes beyond the basic job description. If you were outside looking in, you can see that SGT Coon, mentors the young drivers and VC's by showing them proper PMCS procedures, or if there is a vehicle malfunction, he is there to help a VC troubleshoot the malfunction. SGT Coon is dedicated to his duty as a soldier and highly dedicated to his duties as a sergeant. He is without a doubt, a leader and a mentor for all personnel in Charlie Company.



Hero of the week

SPC Acton, Chad 401-31-0241

SPC Acton is a soldier who never complains about anything, he is a soldier who is always taking the initiative and doing the right thing. As a newly appointed driver for HQ21 he has done a superb job in maintaining the vehicle as well as maneuvering on the battlefield. He is always ensuring that his vehicle is operational and takes the time to check all fluids regardless of the time knowing that there is a follow on mission early the next morning, time is not a factor to him, the only thing that matters is making sure that his vehicle is ready to go.



As the FOB Resolve Senior medic, SGT Vance has played a vital role in the assessments of the ING compound. Upon his first day of occupying FOB Resolve, he quickly noticed the unsatisfactory field sanitation habits and no CASEVAC plans. With this in mind, the next day he assessed the conditions that were below standards and recommended to the personnel in charge occupying the FOB. He identified issues with the electrical power that also effected the septic tanks/latrines and the shower facilities. He also implemented a more effective plan with that disposal of trash that helped reduced the risk of disease to the Iraqis and the military Soldiers. He also initiated a MEDEVAC plan in FOB Resolve by suggesting a LZ/PZ point and constructing casualty collection points. Upon his return to FOB Marez, he also made his recommendations and turned them in to the Company Commander. In the future, his present recommendations and improvements to FOB Resolve will make a great impact on the quality of life for the Iraqi National Guard and the Iraqi way of life.