

Heroes of the Week

A Company

HERO OF THE WEEK

SPC James R. Stouffer



ON 16 AUGUST 2005, APACHE COMPANY, 3RD PLATOON WAS HIT WITH AN IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE WHILE TRAVELING NORTH ON I-15. THE BLAST DETONATED APPROXIMATELY 10 METERS BEHIND SPECIALIST STOUFFER'S STRYKER INFANTRY CARRIER, NARROWLY MISSING THE REAR LEFT SIDE HIS VEHICLE. SPECIALIST STOUFFER MAINTAIN A COOL, CALM AND COLLECTED POSTURE AND CONTINUED SCANNING THE SURROUNDING AREAS FOR ANTI-IRAQI FORCES OBSERVERS. HE THEN NOTICED AN INDIVIDUAL CROUCHING BEHIND A DIRT MOUND OFF TO THE WEST OF THE BLAST SITE AND REPORTED IT TO HIS SQUAD LEADER. SPECIALIST STOUFFER THEN COMMENCED TO ENGAGE THE INDIVIDUAL WHILE HIS SQUAD LEADER REPORTED THE INFORMATION UP TO THE PLATOON LEADER. WITHOUT SPECIALIST STOUFFER'S KEEN EYE AND DEDICATION TO DUTY, 3RD PLATOON WOULD NOT HAVE SUCCESSFULLY ENGAGED AND ELIMINATED THE INDIVIDUAL. SPECIALIST JAMES R. STOUFFER, A RESIDENT OF KENT, WASHINGTON AND FATHER OF TWO BOYS HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO APACHE COMPANY SINCE AUGUST 2004. HIS ACTIONS REPRESENT THE HIGHEST STANDARDS SET FORTH BY 3RD PLATOON, APACHE COMPANY, 1ST BATTALION, 5TH INFANTRY REGIMENT, AND THE 1ST BRIGADE, 25TH INFANTRY DIVISION (SBCT).



B Company

B CO. (DEATHMASTERS) Hero of the Week SPC GREGORY W. COLE



KEEPING THE FOCUS

SPC COLE HAS BEEN PERFORMING EXCEPTIONALLY WELL AS OF LATE AND ESPECIALLY IN THE LINE OF DUTY. HIS KEEN SENSE OF DUTY AND WATCHFUL EYE ENABLED THE COMPANY TO COMPLETE ITS MISSION.

ON 17 AUG 05, WHILE CONDUCTING A MISSION IN THE VILLAGE OF SHIMSIYAT, HE WAS ABLE TO LOCATE A RUNNER. DURING THE MISSION AN INDIVIDUAL WAS SPOTTED RUNNING AWAY FROM THE OBJECTIVE. COALITION FORCES ATTEMPTED TO FIND THIS INDIVIDUAL AND HAD LITTLE LUCK DOING SO. AFTER A FEW HOURS OF SEARCHING WITH NO LUCK, SPC COLE'S PLATOON ARRIVED ON SIGHT TO ASSIST. WITHIN 15 MINUTES, SPC COLE PERSONALLY IDENTIFIED AND LOCATED THE INDIVIDUAL. BECAUSE OF HIS ATTENTION TO DETAIL AND ALERT SENSES, THE COMPANY WAS ABLE TO COMPLETE ITS MISSION AND SHIFTED FOCUS ON OTHER COMBAT OPERATIONS ONGOING.



DISMOUNTED PATROL



EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES



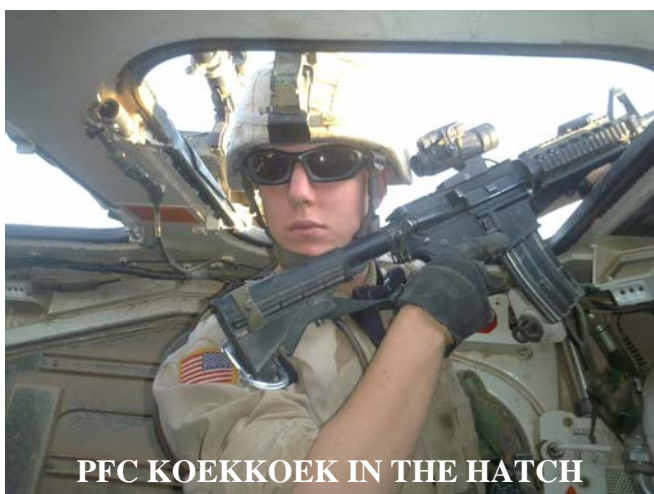
WINNING THE HEARTS & MINDS

C Company

HERO OF THE WEEK

CHARLIE COMPANY 1ST BATTALION 5TH INFANTRY "THE ROCK"

PFC JOEL L. KOEKKOEK



After being assigned to the 3rd Plt, C Co 1-5 IN in March 2005 PFC Koekkoek has shown a astonishing ability to learn very quickly and adapt to a threatening and complex combat environment without the mass of training that the unit went through prior to there deployment to Iraq. His knowledge of the M240 machine gun weapon system, as well as platoon and company standard operating procedures has set him apart from his peers. PFC Koekkoek is a flexible Soldier who works

with different squads every week filling in for Soldier's who are on detail or sick. PFC Koekkoek gives 100% and has excelled in each squad learning the different team and squad tactics and expectations. His devotion to excellence has earned him the respect from his leaders, and the peers.



The bottom line is PFC Koekkoek is a remarkable young Soldier sent into a demanding situation amongst strangers and



has rose above expectation, applying himself with great resolve to become a motivated and competent infantryman.

HHC

“HAWK” Hero of the Week



Upon SPC Disney's arrival to Iraq, he was C Co 2nd Platoons Line Medic. Within two months he became the medic for the HHC Medical Evacuation Vehicle. He was then shortly tasked to be attached to a special operations group where he participated in numerous missions that helped capture some of the most wanted Anti-Iraq Terrorists. He also assisted in many medical evacuation missions that helped save numerous soldiers lives during his stay with the 6/26 Ranger Battalion.

Around June 2005, SPC Disney took over an NCO position within the medical platoon. With SGT Vance taken away for medical coverage, SPC Disney's initiative with the Class VIII system helped the continuity of supplying the medical demands of the Battalion as a whole. He also maintained two positions as a MEV Driver and as a Medical BAS Medic.

While fulfilling his duties as a Medical Supply NCO, SPC Disney was also the primary operator for the HHC MEV. As the MEV Driver, SPC Disney's dedication to duty reflected during all MEV missions and MEDCAPS. His vehicle was fully mission capable at a 99% mission capable operational status. He has also contributed to the Battalion Aid Station by providing 24 hours a day medical coverage of acute and minor sick call patients. Recently, SPC Disney was involved in a POD Fire that could have led to disastrous events. Upon realizing that there was a fire, SPC Disney grabbed all fire extinguishing assets and informed the Company Commander of the situation. Through his quick thinking and aid in putting out the fire, he was able to prevent what could have been life threatening for the soldiers within the POD. Due to his heavy involvement within the Treatment Section, SPC Disney's dedication to duty and his unit has proven himself to be a combat multiplier as a medic.

