



CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD OF
THE BRONZE STAR WITH VALOR
TO
SENIOR AIRMAN PHILLIP ANDREW ARMSTRONG

The President of the United States of America takes pleasure in presenting the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V" to Senior Airman Philip Andrew Armstrong, United States Air Force, for heroism as a Pararescue Craftsman, 21st Expeditionary Special Tactics Squadron, Combined Joint Special Operations Air Component Afghanistan, in volatile Tagab District, Kapisa Province while engaged in action against an enemy of the United States from 27 May 2013 to 30 May 2013. During this period, Airman Armstrong continuously displayed courage and devotion to teammates during a multi-day joint combat clearing operation. Immediately upon objective area infiltration, Airman Armstrong and his team came under heavy and direct attack from multiple fortified enemy positions that included a rocket propelled grenade exploding within several meters of his position that rendered him temporarily unconscious. Despite sustaining traumatic brain injury, Airman Armstrong repeatedly exposed himself to enemy fire while directly engaging enemy forces with his personal weapon while rushing to aid several wounded teammates. On the clearance operation's second day, Airman Armstrong was again exposed to enemy small arms fire and multiple close proximity rocket propelled grenade explosions as he treated his team sergeant who had sustained a life threatening gunshot wound. Disregarding the effects of repeated concussive blasts and incoming enemy fire, he continued treatment and moved his team sergeant 500 meters out of the kill zone to a defensible helicopter extraction site. Airman Armstrong's undaunted courage despite overwhelming enemy fire, while himself suffering from severe battlefield injuries, was directly responsible for saving his team sergeant's life. By his heroic actions and unselfish dedication to duty, Airman Armstrong has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force. heroic actions and unselfish dedication to duty, Airman Nichols has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

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