

**BRONZE STAR AWARD CEREMONY
IN HONOR OF
KRISTY M. WHEELER
SATURDAY, 5 APRIL 2008, 1400 Hours
VWIL PAC PARADE GROUNDS**

Honoree: Captain Kristy Wheeler, USAF
VWIL 2001, First Captain

Lt Col Tannehill

ATTENTION TO ORDERS.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES HAS AWARDED THE BRONZE STAR MEDAL TO SPECIAL AGENT KRISTY M. WHEELER FOR MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT AS COMMANDER, EXPEDITIONARY DETACHMENT 2408, 24TH EXPEDITIONARY FIELD INVESTIGATIONS SQUADRON, 2D FIELD INVESTIGATIONS REGION, AIR FORCE OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS WHILE ENGAGED IN GROUND OPERATIONS AGAINST THE ENEMY AT BAGHDAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, IRAQ FROM 28 JUNE 2006 TO 12 DECEMBER 2006. DURING THIS PERIOD, AGENT WHEELER LED 19 AGENTS IN A COMBAT ZONE RUNNING COMPLEX HUMAN INFORMANT OPERATIONS IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. SHE SUCCESSFULLY FOCUSED HER TROOPS' EFFORTS TO ENGAGE THE ENEMY, ALLOWING AIR FORCE OPERATIONS TO SAFELY TRANSPORT 120,000 COALITION MEMBERS AND 20,000 TONS OF COMBAT EQUIPMENT, WHILE ENDURING OVER 50 MORTAR AND ROCKET ATTACKS. AGENT WHEELER ORCHESTRATED THE RECRUITMENT OF 10 NEW IRAQI HUMAN SOURCES, BUILDING A PRODUCTIVE NETWORK OF 24 SOURCES, GATHERING CRITICAL THREAT INFORMATION, WHICH DIRECTLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE SAFETY OF 42,000 UNITED STATES MILITARY AND COALITION FORCES. SHE DIRECTED OVER 200 HIGH-QUALITY INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORTS, INCLUDING NUMEROUS REPORTS LEADING TO THE NEUTRALIZATION OF TOP UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND HIGH VALUE INDIVIDUALS. SHE COMMANDED OVER 50 TACTICAL COMBAT MISSIONS OUTSIDE THE WIRE, FACING THE POTENTIAL FOR DIRECT ENEMY ATTACKS, DURING THE MOST DEADLY PERIOD IN BAGHDAD TO DATE. AGENT WHEELER'S PIVOTAL EFFORTS PROPELLED 25 TARGET PACKAGES WITH 18 DRIVING DIRECT ACTION MISSIONS AGAINST THE ENEMY, RESULTING IN THE DETENTION OF 11 INSURGENTS, DISRUPTING NUMEROUS ANTI-COALITION OPERATIONS, AND POSITIVELY AFFECTING BAGHDAD INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT'S BATTLE SPACE, BY REDUCING IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE ATTACKS BY 60 PERCENT. THE EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP, PERSONAL ENDEAVOR, AND DEVOTION TO DUTY DISPLAYED BY AGENT WHEELER IN THIS RESPONSIBLE POSITION REFLECT GREAT CREDIT UPON HERSELF AND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE.

SIGNED:

GARY L. NORTH

LIEUTENANT GENERAL, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COMMANDER, UNITED STATES AIR FORCES, UNITED STATES CENTRAL COMMAND