

SOLDIER TO RECEIVE MEDAL OF HONOR

Former Army Staff Sergeant Ryan Pitts will receive the Medal of Honor next month for heroism in Afghanistan.

White House officials say the former staff sergeant will be awarded the medal for courageous actions in battle in July 2008.

Army officials say Staff Sergeant Pitt's was manning an observation post in northeastern Afghanistan when it was attacked with small-arms fire and grenades. Pitts defended the position along with his fellow Soldiers despite taking shrapnel in both legs and his left arm.

Officials say his toughness, determination, and ability to communicate with leadership all under fire allowed U.S. forces to hold the post and turn the tide. Nine soldiers were killed in that battle.

Former Staff Sergeant Pitts will be honored with the military's highest award, July 21st, during a ceremony at the White House and that's your DOD news update.