

Online Press Kit Captions

Photographs 1-37

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23 June, 2014

1. (Left to right) Sgt. Matthew Gobble, Sgt. Ryan Pitts, then-Sgt. Adam Delaney, Sgt. Dylan Meyer, Sgt. Brian Hissong, Sgt. Mike Santiago and Sgt. Israel Garcia, with 2nd Platoon, Chosen Company, pause for a photo before going out on patrol, at Forward Operating Base Blessing, Nangalam, Afghanistan, spring/summer 2007.
2. Pictured here, Cpl. Gunnar W. Zwilling pulls security while on patrol outside of Forward Operating Base Blessing, Nangalam, Afghanistan.
3. Pictured here is Sgt. 1st Class David L. Dzwik in Afghanistan, spring 2008.
4. Pictured here are Spc. Richard Ingledue (left) and Staff Sgt. Samaroo, while on patrol near Forward Operating Base Blessing, Nangalam, Afghanistan.
5. Pictured here are Spc. Tyler Stafford (front left), Cpl. Matthew B. Phillips (front right) and Spc. Gunnar Zwilling help build a traffic control point northeast of Combat Outpost Bella, Afghanistan, spring 2008. The road runs from COP Bella to Aranas.
6. In this undated photo, Spc. Michael Denton is on patrol in Afghanistan.
7. (Left to right) Spc. William Hewitt, Cpl. Jonathan R. Ayers and Spc. Chris McKaig pull security at Observation Post 1, near Combat Outpost Bella, Afghanistan, spring 2008.
8. Picture here is 2nd Platoon, Chosen Company, at Forward Operating Base Blessing, Nangalam, Afghanistan. Pictured are: (left to right/back row) Staff Sgt. Sam Miller, Pfc. Nick Murray, Cpl. Pruitt Rainey, Spc. Laquan Borden, Sgt. Mike Santiago, Spc. Ryan Schwartz, Spc. Tyler Stafford, Spc. John Hayes, Staff Sgt. Jonathan Benton, Cpl. Matthew Phillips, Spc. Adam Hamby, Spc. Reid Grapes, Spc. Tarien Lister, Spc. Jeff Molnar, Spc. Jacob Sones, Spc. Richard Ingledue, Spc. Tyler Hanson, Sgt. Ryan Pitts, Pfc. Joseph Latulippe, (left to right/front row) Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Kahler, Sgt. Brian Hissong, Sgt. Dylan Meyer, Staff Sgt. Lucas Gonzalez, Sgt. Adam Delaney, Sgt. Matthew Gobble, Sgt. Israel Garcia, Staff Sgt. Sean Samaroo, Spc. James Schmidt, Pfc. Ian Eads, Spc. Jacob Walker, Cpl. Gunnar Zwilling, Spc. Michael Denton, Spc. Nathan Wright, Cpl. Jason Hovater, Spc. Francisco Rodriquez, Spc. Joshua Sowell and 1st Lt. Devin George.

9. Pictured here are members of 1st Platoon, Chosen Company, who came to aid 2nd platoon during the battle for Vehicle Patrol Base Kahler, Afghanistan. Here, they are at Forward Operating Base Blessing, Nangalam, Afghanistan.
10. Pfc. Nathan Wright, Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Kahler, and Pfc. Ian Eads pause for a photo before going out on patrol, at Forward Operating Base Blessing, Nangalam, Afghanistan, in the summer of 2007.
11. Pictured here are then-Cpt. Matthew Myer and 1st Sgt. Scott Beeson in Parun, Nuristan, June 2007.
12. This photo is taken from the northern fighting position of OP Topside, facing to the north and northeast. Depicted here is the “dead space”, where the enemy attacked just below the terraces, approximately 5 meters from northern position. The building in the distance was used as an enemy fighting position during the Battle for Vehicle Patrol Base Kahler, July 14, 2008.
13. This photo depicts the southern battle position within OP Topside, established as a casualty collection point because it was the area most secure from enemy fire.
14. Pictured here is Staff Sergeant Ryan Pitts, April 2014.
15. Pictured here in Nashua, N.H., in April 2014, is Ryan Pitts, holding an American flag flown by his grandfather, Frank Krypel, throughout Chosen Company’s 15-month deployment to Afghanistan. Krypel brought the flag down only once, when Ryan returned home.
16. Pictured here in Nashua, N.H., in April 2014, are Ryan Pitts and 1-year-old son Lucas.
17. Pictured here is Cpl. Pruitt A. Rainey. Rainey was killed defending Vehicle Patrol Base Kahler, in the vicinity of Wanat village, Nuristan Province, Afghanistan on 13 July, 2008.
18. Pictured here is Cpl. Gunnar Zwilling. Zwilling was killed defending Vehicle Patrol Base Kahler, in the vicinity of Wanat village, Nuristan Province, Afghanistan on 13 July, 2008.
19. Pictured here is Cpl. Matthew Phillips. Phillips was killed defending Vehicle Patrol Base Kahler, in the vicinity of Wanat village, Nuristan Province, Afghanistan on 13 July, 2008.
20. Pictured here is Cpl. Jonathan R. Ayers. Ayers was killed defending Vehicle Patrol Base Kahler, in the vicinity of Wanat village, Nuristan Province, Afghanistan on 13 July, 2008.

21. Pictured here is Spc. Sergio S. Abad. Abad was killed defending Vehicle Patrol Base Kahler, in the vicinity of Wanat village, Nuristan Province, Afghanistan on 13 July, 2008.
22. Depicted here in an artist's rendering is Cpl. Jason M. Bogar. Bogar was killed defending Vehicle Patrol Base Kahler, in the vicinity of Wanat village, Nuristan Province, Afghanistan on 13 July, 2008.
23. Pictured here is 1st Lt. Jonathan P. Brostrom. Brostrom was killed defending Vehicle Patrol Base Kahler, in the vicinity of Wanat village, Nuristan Province, Afghanistan on 13 July, 2008.
24. Pictured here is Cpl. Jason D. Hovater. Hovater was killed defending Vehicle Patrol Base Kahler, in the vicinity of Wanat village, Nuristan Province, Afghanistan on 13 July, 2008.
25. Pictured here is Sgt. Israel Garcia. Garcia was killed defending Vehicle Patrol Base Kahler, in the vicinity of Wanat village, Nuristan Province, Afghanistan on 13 July, 2008.
26. Pictured here is the northern fighting position of Observation Post Topside at Vehicle Patrol Base Kahler, July 2008. Sgt. Ryan Pitts, Cpl. Matthew Phillips and Cpl. Gunnar Zwilling were in charge of manning the Long-Range Advanced Scout Surveillance System, which is covered by camouflage net here. The system helps detect, identify and geo-locate distant targets.
27. Sgt. Ryan Pitts holds a bracelet he wears that commemorates the late Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Kahler, former platoon sergeant of 2nd platoon, which is taped over another bracelet (not visible) the commemorates the fallen of 1st Platoon, Chosen Company, who were killed Nov. 9, 2007, in an ambush. Commemorated on the second bracelet are: Capt. Matthew Ferrara, Spc. Joseph Lancour, Cpl. Lester Roque, Cpl. Sean Langevin and Sgt. Jeffrey Mersman. This bracelet prevented shrapnel from penetrating Pitts' wrist.
28. Pictured here in Nashua, N.H., in April 2014, are Ryan Pitts, Amy Pitts, and 1-year-old son Lucas.
29. Members of 2nd Platoon, Chosen Company, unpack supplies brought in by helicopter at Combat Outpost Bella, Afghanistan, in spring 2008. COP Bella was inaccessible by vehicle, warranting all supplies and reinforcements be transported by air.
30. Cpl. Jason M. Bogar interacts with Afghan children during a community engagement mission, in spring 2008.
31. Medic Spc. Laquan Borden (left) and Cpl. Jason D. Hovater take a break before heading out on a patrol.

- 32.** Paratroopers with 2nd platoon, Chosen Company, unpack gear and begin digging in after arriving at Wanat, Afghanistan, July 2008.
- 33.** Staff Sgt. Lucas Gonzalez and Sgt. Ryan Pitts pay their respects to former platoon sergeant Sgt. 1st Class Matthew Kahler, during a memorial ceremony at Combat Outpost Bella, Afghanistan, January 2008. Kahler was killed during a patrol to visit guard stations near COP Bella.
- 34.** First Lt. Jonathan Brostrom takes a break during a patrol northeast of Combat Outpost Bella, Afghanistan, near Observation Point Speedbump. The patrol was conducted to assess 2nd platoon's ability to conduct patrols out of Combat Outpost Bella.
- 35.** Sgt. Ryan Pitts and Sgt. Israel Garcia patrol the area near the village of Rechalam, Afghanistan, which is west of Forward Operating Base Blessing, Nangalam, Afghanistan, in the summer of 2007.
- 36.** Cpl. Pruitt Rainey mans the turret while out on patrol in Afghanistan.
- 37.** Pictured here is the village of Wanat, Afghanistan, in Nuristan Province, looking southward, July 2008.