

UPRG



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT

THE AIR FORCE ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

HAS BEEN AWARDED TO

AIRMAN FIRST CLASS RYAN STARZYK

FOR

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

13 MARCH 2004 TO 11 SEPTEMBER 2004

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Airman First Class Ryan Starzyk distinguished himself by outstanding achievement as a Fire Team Member, while assigned to the 506th Air Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, 506th Air Expeditionary Group, 332d Air Expeditionary Wing, Kirkuk Regional Air Base, Iraq. During this period, while engaged in combat operations against an opposing armed force in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, Airmen Starzyk afforded uncompromised force protection for 4,400 civilian and military personnel and 6.5 billion dollars in Department of Defense assets despite being subjected to over 50 rocket attacks. He provided armed response to three hostile situations involving small arms fire and rocket attacks against the installation. Additionally, Airman Starzyk remained vigilant and steadfast while posted as perimeter observation sentry following a rocket attack which led to a mass fire and detonation in the Munitions Storage Area. Despite four hours of repeated explosions and flying shrapnel, he ensured the integrity of the installation perimeter. His unswerving devotion to duty proved vital to sustaining the momentum of decisive combat operations resulting in the successful hand over of power and transition to an Iraqi free government. The distinctive accomplishments of Airman Starzyk reflect credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND

14 OCTOBER 2004

WALTER E. BUCHANAN III
Lieutenant General, USAF
Commander, USCENTAF

