## Between Iraq and A Hard Place

 $732^{ ext{nd}}$  Expeditionary Security Forces Squadrons (ESFS) © 2023, by Don Poss

Combat patrols between Iraq and Baghdad reaped its toll on SF Defenders Dets 3 and 2 of the 732<sup>nd</sup> ESFS.

The Mission: run the Iraq-Baghdad gauntlet—*itself a victor*— the goal to mentor, coach, and train law enforcement at Iraqi Police stations.

As war heated in that triangle of death, SF Det 2 formed up with Army CAV MPs—other 732nd Detachments joined in. With a new SF battle-strength-fist, the war would go *better* than in bygone days.

Security Forces war-on-wheels engaged the enemy in combat—their thunderous-dreadnaught slayed many a foe. Enemy's EIDs and deadly snipers rose up a mighty din in challenge—both sides caused each other woe.

Grim Reaper, with uproarious laughter, garnished trophies from both Good and Evil.

Defenders bled American red, white, and blue; souls soaring above.

The Evil road the 9/11 elevator, its shadow plummeting to hell.

Grandsons of the Greatest Generation knew hard battles ahead meant deaths and wounds aplenty, and for years that was so—the lesson yet to learn—some wounds would never heal.

Yet someday, as did their fathers, they too would proudly wear their medals and awards honoring brothers wounded and fallen; and would never forget the combat patrols fought between Baghdad, Iraq and a hard place.





A1C ELIZABETH N. JACOBSON SAPEAN, IRAQ - 28 SEPTEMBER 2005



SSOT BRIAN MCELEGY TAR, IRAQ - 22 JANUARY 2006



TSOT JASON L. NORTON TAIL, BAG - 22 JANUARY 2006



ATC LEBBERNARD E. CHAVIS BAGHBAB, IRAG - 14 OCTOBER 2006



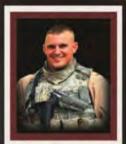
SSGT JOHN T. SHLF BAUUDAD, IRAQ - 14 MAY 2007



SRA JASON D. NATHAN THEIT, BAQ - 23 JUNE 2007



SSGT TRAVES L. GRIPPIN BACKERSO, ISAG - 3 Ares 2008



1st Lt Joseph D. Helton Bauman, Isaq - 8 Surrismus 2009



SEA NICHOLAS J. ALDEN



B-AGJAM AlliPIr, LD, ARGRANISTAIN



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