

SPECIALIST SASHA FLEETWOOD

202nd MI Battalion, 513th MI Brigade

CSM Doug Russell Award 2011 Recipient



SPC Sasha Fleetwood enlisted in the Army in February 2008, completing basic combat training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. She then attended the Human Intelligence (HUMINT) Collectors Course at Fort Huachuca, graduating in March 2009. SPC Fleetwood deployed from October 2009-2010 to Oruzgan Province, Afghanistan, in support of Army Special Operations forces. While deployed, she spearheaded the establishment of a female *Shura*, (meaning consultation) that gave political voice to the area's female population. During the deployment, Fleetwood provided more than 150 intelligence information reports which resulted in a significant reduction of attacks throughout the region.

On 18 June 2010, during a combat patrol, SPC Fleetwood's unit was attacked by enemy forces. SPC Fleetwood distinguished herself during the engagement as a member of the mortar team and earned the Combat Action Badge. When asked about her deployment and mission in Afghanistan, SPC Fleetwood commented, "I really didn't do anything special; I just think I did my job." She went on to say that the best part of the deployment was being able to see she had made a direct impact. "I told myself when I went to Afghanistan that I didn't want to leave feeling unaccomplished and I think I met my goal; I feel I did something good." SPC Fleetwood says she owes her success to the mentorship she received. SPC Fleetwood's future goal was to be assigned to a special mission unit within the Army.



MI Corps and Intelligence Center of Excellence Command Sergeant Major Todd Holiday bestows the Knowlton Award on SPC Sasha Fleetwood, winner of the 2011 CSM Doug Russell Award.



MICA National Vice President W.F. Morgan, Jr., congratulates SPC Fleetwood.