

CAPTAIN KEVIN M. RYAN
2013 Recipient

LTG Sidney T. Weinstein Award for Excellence in Military Intelligence



CPT Kevin Ryan graduated from Norwich University in 2006 as a Distinguished Military Graduate and received a commission as a Second Lieutenant of Military Intelligence. He then completed the MI Basic Officer Leader Course at Fort Huachuca. As part of a unique assessment program, he was selected to serve with the 75th Ranger Regiment and subsequently completed Airborne School and Ranger School. In 2007, CPT Ryan served a one-year tour in South Korea as the S2 for 4th Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division. As the Senior Intelligence Officer for the Brigade's Reconnaissance Squadron, he led air and ground collection missions along the DMZ in support of the Division Commander's Priorities.

From 2008-2010, CPT Ryan served as Assistant S2 for 2nd Ranger Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment in Fort Lewis, Washington. He deployed twice as part of a Joint Special Operations Task Force and in January 2009, served as a Deputy J2. He was the senior Army intelligence officer in a US Navy Special Operations-led task force. During a subsequent deployment, CPT Ryan served as the senior intelligence officer on an expeditionary Special Operations Task Force in Afghanistan, responsible for direct action raids in Regional Command (RC) East.

After graduating in the Top 5 of his MI Captains Career Course, CPT Ryan was assigned to the 1st Squadron (Airborne), 91st Cavalry Regiment (1-91 CAV), 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, in Schweinfurt, Germany. In July 2012, CPT Ryan and his intelligence team deployed with 1-91 CAV to Logar Province, Afghanistan. During pre-deployment preparations, CPT Ryan had produced a simple narrative describing the goals of Taliban and Haqqani networks as they related to other factors in the complex environment of Logar Province. Once in Afghanistan, this common understanding allowed for clear communication with Afghan leadership and focused the efforts of more than 40 organizations from five different nations operating in the

Province. In addition, CPT Ryan's previous deployed experiences with the Rangers gave him rapport with special operations forces, greatly enhancing the unit's ability to maintain a strong unity of effort and effect a massive disruption of insurgent networks. In six months time, the Squadron collaborated on the successful targeting of more than 50 high-value individuals. Removing these insurgents from the battlefield effectively disrupted Taliban and Haqqani networks in key parts of Logar and created space for Afghan forces to improve their capabilities and expand their security zones.

Calm and confident under stressful conditions, CPT Ryan was a source of strength and courage when his Jordanian partner was killed and one of his Soldiers severely wounded during a rocket attack. He rallied his team, kept them focused on their mission, and remained closely involved in the rehabilitation of his Soldiers in the United States. Although quiet and professional, CPT Ryan commanded respect from subordinates, peers, and senior officers. His abilities to lead, be part of a team, and build and manage an extensive intelligence network were absolutely integral to the Squadron's success in Logar.

Widely regarded as the best military intelligence professional in the 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team, CPT Ryan was selected to command the Brigade's Military Intelligence Company in December 2012. Colonel Andrew Rohling, the Brigade Commander, wrote that he personally selected CPT Ryan "to command the MI Company in combat because of his values-based leadership. He possesses a rare combination of intellect, aptitude, and charisma. He exudes confidence and talent. I have no doubt that Kevin will be a senior leader in the MI Corps."