



NATIONAL
MEDAL of HONOR
MUSEUM FOUNDATION



CLINTON "CLINT" ROMESHA



BRANCH: UNITED STATES ARMY

RANK: STAFF SERGEANT

COMBAT: GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR - AFGHANISTAN

MEDAL OF HONOR ACTION: *ON OCTOBER 3, 2009, STAFF SERGEANT ROMESHA FIRST BRAVED ENEMY FIRE TO SURVEIL THE BATTLEFIELD. HE THEN RETRIEVED REINFORCEMENTS FROM THE BARRACKS AND DIRECTED A COUNTER-ATTACK ON THE ENEMY. HE ELIMINATED AN ENEMY MACHINE GUN TEAM AND WAS THEN INJURED BY SHRAPNEL FROM AN ENEMY ROCKET. UNDETERRED, SSGT. ROMESHA CONTINUALLY EXPOSED HIMSELF TO ENEMY GUNFIRE TO DIRECT THE ATTACK AND SINGLE-HANDEDLY DESTROYED ATTACKING TALIBAN WHO HAD BREACHED THE OUTPOST. COUNTERING A FOCUSED ENEMY ATTACK, SSGT. ROMESHA CONTINUED TO DIRECT FORCES AND AIR STRIKES THAT ELIMINATED 30 ENEMY FIGHTERS. STAFF SERGEANT ROMESHA'S HEROIC ACTIONS THROUGHOUT THE DAY-LONG BATTLE WERE CRITICAL IN SUPPRESSING AN ENEMY THAT HAD FAR GREATER NUMBERS.*

MEDAL OF HONOR CITATION: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a Section Leader with Bravo Troop, 3d Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, during combat operations against an armed enemy at Combat Outpost Keating, Kamdesh District, Nuristan Province, Afghanistan on 3 October 2009. On that morning, Staff Sergeant Romesha and his comrades awakened to an attack by an estimated 300 enemy fighters occupying the high ground on all four sides of the complex, employing concentrated fire from recoilless rifles, rocket propelled grenades, anti-aircraft machine guns, mortars and small arms fire. Staff Sergeant Romesha moved uncovered under intense enemy fire to conduct a reconnaissance of the battlefield and seek reinforcements from the barracks before returning to action with the support of an assistant gunner. Staff Sergeant Romesha took out an enemy machine gun team and, while engaging a second, the generator he was using for cover was struck by a rocket-propelled grenade, inflicting him with shrapnel wounds. Undeterred by his injuries, Staff Sergeant Romesha continued to fight and upon the arrival of another soldier to aid him and the assistant gunner, he again rushed through the exposed avenue to assemble additional soldiers. Staff Sergeant Romesha then mobilized a five-man team and returned to the fight equipped with a sniper rifle. With complete disregard for his own safety, Staff Sergeant Romesha continually exposed himself to heavy enemy fire, as he moved confidently about the battlefield engaging and destroying multiple enemy targets, including three Taliban fighters who had breached the combat outpost's perimeter. While orchestrating a successful plan to secure and reinforce key points of the battlefield, Staff Sergeant Romesha maintained radio communication with the tactical operations center. As the enemy forces attacked with even greater ferocity, unleashing a barrage of rocket-propelled grenades and recoilless rifle rounds, Staff Sergeant Romesha identified the point of attack and directed air support to destroy over 30 enemy fighters. After receiving reports that seriously injured soldiers were at a distant battle position, Staff Sergeant Romesha and his team provided covering fire to allow the injured soldiers to safely reach the aid station. Upon receipt of orders to proceed to the next objective, his team pushed forward 100 meters under overwhelming enemy fire to recover and prevent the enemy fighters from taking the bodies of the fallen comrades. Staff Sergeant Romesha's heroic actions throughout the day-long battle were critical in suppressing an enemy that had far greater numbers. His extraordinary efforts gave Bravo Troop the opportunity to regroup, reorganize and prepare for the counterattack that allowed the Troop to account for its personnel and secure Combat Post Keating. Staff Sergeant Romesha's discipline and extraordinary heroism above and beyond the call of duty reflect great credit upon himself, Bravo Troop, 3d Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division and the United States Army.