

United States Marine Corps



Certificate of Commendation

Commanding Officer, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 23d Marines

takes pleasure in commending

Corporal Gustavo C. Ruiz / 0311 USMC

for

Superior performance of duty while serving as a Fire Team Leader, First Squad, Second Platoon, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 23d Marines during Operation Iraqi Freedom II. On 16 January 2005 while conducting a reconnaissance of the future election polling site in Hit City, Iraq, Corporal Ruiz exercised individual initiative by gathering valuable intelligence from employees at the Hit railroad station. This intelligence aided greatly during mission planning and was vital to the successful accomplishment of the first Iraqi free election on 30 January 2005. Additionally, Corporal Ruiz's knowledge of the Arabic language made him an indispensable asset to the platoon. Throughout the deployment, he utilized his skills to interact with the local populace in order to determine atmospheric, to give vital commands at vehicle check points, and to collect battlefield intelligence. Corporal Ruiz's professionalism and loyal devotion to duty reflected great credit upon himself and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

28 March 2005

Date

Rich S. Rod

R. S. RODRIGUEZ
MAJOR, U. S. MARINE CORPS RESERVE
COMMANDING