



**160TH SPECIAL OPERATIONS AVIATION REGIMENT (AIRBORNE)
FORT CAMPBELL, KY.
*BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH***

*U.S. ARMY SPECIAL FORCES COMMAND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
FORT BRAGG, NC 28310 / (910) 432-6005 / <http://www.soc.mil>*

STAFF SGT MATTHEW E. TAFT

Staff Sgt. Matthew E. Taft, a native of Jacksonville, FL, volunteered for military service Feb. 1, 2006. After completing Basic Combat Training at Fort Jackson, S.C., he was assigned to 1st Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne), Fort Campbell, Ky.

Since arriving at the 160th SOAR (A), Taft has served as an MH-60 helicopter repairman, phase team member, basic mission qualified crew member, fully-mission-qualified crew member, and flight instructor. He currently serves in D Company, 1st Battalion, 160th SOAR (A), as an MH-60 flight instructor.



Taft is a combat veteran that has deployed 14 times in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn.

Taft's awards and decorations include the Air Medal with "Valor" Device, two Air Medals, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal with two Knots, Presidential Unit Citation with one Oak Leaf Cluster, National Defense Service Medal, Afghan Campaign Medal with two Campaign Stars, Iraq Campaign Medal-three Campaign Stars, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon with numeral two, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon with numeral two, Combat Action Badge, and the Aircraft Crewmember Badge.