

29 December 2010

Mr. Scott Davis
"Christmas For Our Troops"
P.O. Box 10549
Midland, TX 79702

Dear Mr. Davis,

I am writing this letter to thank all of the amazing volunteers at "Christmas For Our Troops" for the gift box of goodies, snacks and other items that you sent to the Marines and Sailors in my unit. What a wonderful treat to receive some good old TEXAS treats all the way over here for Christmas. It did my Texas Aggie heart a world of good to read the mailing address on your business card. Everything in the box was shared among the Marines and Sailors and enjoyed by all. The thing I believe that is appreciated the most is the fact that all of you great Americans took time out of your busy schedules to volunteer, collect, sort, pack, label and mail a gift box out to a Marine (or Sailor, Soldier or Airman), whom you've never met, but want to support all the same. Please allow me to express the thanks of all my Marines and Sailors who are always grateful to patriotic Americans, like yourselves, who take the time to remember us, not just on holidays when the flag is flown and the parades march down the streets, but every day of the year. America's military is an all volunteer force, a rarity compared to many nations around the world, so we chose to come out here and serve our country, and while to many others what we do willingly to protect hearth and home, our families and loved ones, and every other citizen of our great nation, is sometimes unimaginable, to us it's simply our job. I make light of a very serious subject, but truth be told, I stand right beside you in amazement when I think about the courage that every single Marine, Sailor, Soldier and Airman demonstrates every day while walking patrol on the roads and through the villages of this country.

Please rest assured that our troops, along with our Coalition Force partner nations, are making great and positive strides over here. The quality of life of the Afghan peoples has been significantly improved by the roads, bridges, water wells, schools, court houses and local markets that are being constructed, for the most part by local national contractors. The government services are responding to the needs of the local people and the Afghan National Security Forces have excelled under the training programs we have in place and are increasing their abilities to protect themselves, the people and the government of Afghanistan from terrorist threats. This is a very rewarding time to be here and I look forward to seeing even greater accomplishments in 2011.

Please keep up the OUTSTANDING job you are doing at home in the U.S. of A. and best wishes to you and all of the wonderful volunteers working hard at "Christmas For Our Troops" for a Happy and Successful New Year.

Sincerely,


LCDR C. Aycock, USN

1st Marine Division(Forward)
Afghanistan