

**Thank You From Afghanistan!**

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**From:** "Greg Schrein" <gschrein@yahoo.com>**To:** scott@christmasforourtroops.org

Dear Christmas For Our Troops,

I wanted to take a moment and thank you for your package and thoughtful words. It has always impressed me, after 4 tours now, how supportive folks are back home. While much of what we are doing doesn't make the headlines in the news anymore, it always comforts me to know that the men and women who have volunteered to put themselves in harm's way have not been forgotten. Over here we very often get caught up in the day to day tasks of conducting our missions. It is nice to come back to our tent at the end of a long day and read a supportive note, share a box amongst all of us and look at the cards and pictures many of the grade school kids send. This support serves as a heartfelt reminder of just how important our mission is over here; ensuring that folks back home never have to repeat the horrors of 9/11.

My team is a small group made up of Officer's and Non-Commissioned Officers who advise the Afghan National Army as they work to make their country a safer place. We work with their leaders and help them develop training to better prepare their units for combat against the Taliban and other anti-government forces. We also provide them support while on patrol. While this job does carry some risk, we have developed a great respect for our counterparts and learn as much from them as they do from us.

I myself have been married for almost 10 years (December 23<sup>rd</sup>) to a wonderful woman, Deena, who has blessed me with two healthy and happy children, Lillian (8) and Benjamin (6). We are from all over the country, but call Savannah, GA our home for now. We were stationed at Fort Hood for a number of years and always loved Texas!

As we continue in this holiday season, I ask that you keep all of the men and women serving in harm's way in your thoughts and prayers. Know that your support helps keep us going. Bless you and yours.

Sincerely,

Gregory M. Schrein

MAJ, USA

2nd Mobile Strike Force Senior Advisor

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