



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

CHOSIN COMPANY, 2-3 BSTB
COMBINED TEAM URUZGAN
PB MIRWAIS, AFGHANISTAN
APO AE 09380



REPLY TO

01 January 2013

To the volunteers of Christmas for our Troops, Inc.,


I hope this letter finds you well, and that you are enjoying a happy and prosperous new year. I would like to very sincerely thank you for the tremendous gift you have given to me and the Soldiers of Chosin Company, 2-3 BSTB. We received your care packages and appreciate all of the time and effort you put into them.

I command more than 200 Soldiers, many of whom are in ascetic bases in what is called an "expeditionary" state. This basically means extremely limited amenities; almost no internet, limited plumbing, cold weather, community living areas (tents), and no shop to purchase hygiene products. The inability to go out and purchase simple things like deodorant, soap, and snacks can be frustrating and highlights our distance from home. However, your efforts have made life in the remote Chorah valley of Afghanistan that much easier.

Although many of us very fondly reminisce of grocery stores, drug stores, and the American lifestyle, it is our families that we miss the most. The love and support we receive from home goes a long way to help us stay focused on our mission and to stay strong. The love, care, and concern you have demonstrated so fervently has been absolutely overwhelming to my Soldiers and me. The steady support from home is an invaluable asset to the Soldiers on the front lines who are now enjoying treats from home thanks to you.

We truly cannot thank you enough. You have made the holiday season in Afghanistan, often the most difficult time of year, a pleasure rather than a burden. On behalf of all of the Chosin, Thank you for your support; your time and effort are well appreciated and are the paragon of the American spirit. Your continued thoughts and prayers are appreciated as you will be in ours.

Sincerely,


JEFFREY B. KENNEDY
CPT, EN
Commanding


JASON A. LOVITT
1SG, USA



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