
From: lori.campo@blab.centaf.af.mil

[mailto:lori.campo@blab.centaf.af.mil]

Sent: Friday, April 29, 2005 11:09 AM

To: OPC05@comcast.net

Subject: Hello from IRAQ

Hello Operation Pentucket Cares, I'm Chief Campo, air Force, I work in a hospital in Iraq and we take care of injured soldiers. We've received your packages and the soldiers love them. The drawings from the children are the best. Unfortunately I'll be leaving in a few days so I won't have time to correspond. I wish I would have met the children and yourself earlier, I could have told them lots of stories of what we do. What I do have time for though is to send you pictures of their drawings that I have posted in our hospital. Our hospital is comprised of tents and has everything in it. I put their pictures next to the ICU unit, because this is where our soldiers need most of the love. We operate just like a mash unit, just like you see on TV, where the helicopter lands and off loads the patients they are wheeled into the ER, then OR, than ICU than the ward, back to duty, or to Germany if they need further care. I love working here and will miss all this, but I must go. I will give my replacement your letter with your address on it and hopefully they will follow up with correspondence, and continue being your hands here in Iraq. Take care Pentucket, we have you covered.

CMSgt Lori Campo

One candle in the torch for Freedom for All - Campo

Dear Operation Pentucket Cares (O.P.C),

On behalf of my Soldiers from the 163rd Ordnance Detachment I would like to say thank you. I know that all of the supporters of OPC have dedicated many hours and money in support of the Soldiers. Your kindness and generosity is what makes this country great. My daily conversations with my Soldiers always come back to how much support we get from back home. In our minds and hearts you the American people are the true heroes.

The care packages were filled with everything we needed. From noodles to tooth paste and beef jerky. The Soldiers were excited to read the letters from the students. Many of the Soldiers have children their same age so it struck a personal chord with them.

The Soldiers wanted to pass on to OPC that they are here to not only ensure freedom for us but to all to have to live in fear. Be assured the Soldiers are here because they want to be and know they are making a difference.

Melissa (Bagnall School),

Thank you for kind and wonderful letter. The Soldiers here are proud of you for your patriotism. You should be very proud of yourself. I do have a pet. Her name is LULU and she is a Black German Shepard. I have not had the chance to horseback riding. I will definitely give it a try when I get back home.

Alex (Page School),

I am honored to be able to write to you. You along with all the other students are my heroes. You have taken the time out to write and ask questions of the Soldiers here in Iraq. My Soldiers are all so very proud of you all. I wasn't very good at gymnastics when I was in grade school. However, I enjoyed playing soccer, football, baseball and volleyball. I also have a dog. Her name is LULU and she is a Black German Shepard. Lulu is bigger now but she likes to play the same. Thanks again Alex for caring.

CAPTAIN DOMINIC DINH
163RD ORDNANCE DET "F"
FORWARD OPERATING BASE (FOB) ENDURANCE
APO, AE 09334
DNVT PHONE (302) 558 3402 OR (302) 522 2207

E-Mail to Operation Pentucket Cares

Thank you very much for taking the time to pack and send me the care package. It is very nice of you all to think of myself and the soldiers here in Iraq. It is also nice to know that people and young people too are supporting the work the military is doing here. I will tell you that we (the military) are making a difference and helping grow this countrys new democracy. I am also proud to be protecting the greatest country on earth's freedom, the USA! I am a UH-60 Blackhawk pilot here in Kirkuk. We have the Medevac mission which means we are a flying ambulance that picks up wounded soldiers. Our helicopter is able to carry 4 wounded soldiers and we have an onboard medic that provides care until we can get to a field hospital. I have been here for 4 months and will stay here another 8. I used the toothbrush this morning that you all sent me and thank you again for your good work and consideration! I also recieved a letter from Noah. I would like thank him and send him a special hello too.

Sincerely,

CW3 Spiro Davis

From: [michael beleski](mailto:michael.beleski@comcast.net)

To: OPCO5@comcast.net

Sent: Saturday, April 30, 2005 8:29 PM

Subject: Operation Pentucket Cares

Hello Folks,

My name and rank is Command Sergeant Major Mike Beleski, I am currently serving in the United States Army in Afghanistan. I am attached to the 76th Infantry Brigade out of Indiana and I am from Bedford NH. I am in the New Hampshire Army National Guard.

My niece Halle Conn, goes to the Page School in W Newbury, Ma. She is in Mrs. Boisvert's third grade class. I recently received Valentines from the whole class which was a very special and pleasant surprise. I just recently mailed each child in the class a response to their individual letters. I took so long to get them in the mail because of our (myself and other soldiers) remote location. We are only able to get mail every six weeks or so, if we are lucky sometimes less. I hope that the children enjoy the notes that I wrote to them as much I enjoyed reading theirs.

I assume that you all got my name from Mrs. Boisvert or my Sister-in-law Claudia Conn. Well, I received packages to day and what a pleasant surprise it was. Myself and my fellow soldiers enjoyed all the goodies immensely. It is so nice to hear from folks back home that appreciate what we are trying to do here in Afghanistan and Iraq. It is nice gestures like yours that keeps our mental attitudes positive which enables us to carry on with our missions each day. You folks are the real (unsung) heroes, you are the best!!

Thank you so much for the wonderful useful items that we received and the nice letter included with each package from the children. Take care, be safe, and your support means so much to the service men and woman in the military forces of the United States of America. GO RED SOXES!!

Sincerely,

CSM Mike Beleski

RCAG-West Herat

76th Infantry Brigade

Command Sergeant Major

From: Mohammed S. Ahmed

To: OPCO5@comcast.net

Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2005

Subject: Operation Pentucket Cares

Thanks for your letters/care packages, I just received them today. I would've individually written to you guys, but couldn't due to operation tempo. Thanks for including an email address, this way I don't have to worry about so many thank you letters getting lost in the mail.

My name is Mohammad Shahab Ahmed. My friends and family call me Shahab. I was born in Karachi, Pakistan. I came to New York when I was 13. I graduated 4th in the class of 500 from Hillcrest High School in Queens, NYC. I had full 4-year scholarship. At 0900 on 9/11, I was going to college. The A train stopped at Chambers Street/World Trade Center station. That day I was stuck in Manhattan. I love NYC, but I couldn't live there anymore. I realize there are more important things to do in this world than fiercely competing for best grades and trying to pursue the major that would help me make the most money.

Army has changed my life. This is my 3rd deployment to a combat zone in 3 years. I have lived, traveled, trained, or deployed to: Pakistan, United States, Canada, Italy, Germany, Austria, Kosovo, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Czech Republic, Hungary, Croatia, Slovenia, Kyrgyzstan, and now I am in Afghanistan for 1 year. I am in Delta Battery 319th Airborne Field Artillery Regiment (the highest decorated Airborne Field Artillery battery in the US Army), means we have very high standards. Our battery is part of 173rd Airborne Brigade from Vicenza, Italy, that jumped in Iraq on 26 March 2003. I have jumped 4 times from Blackhawk, and 7 times from C-130.

I have one sister and she has 2 sons. My father died when I was in Pakistan and my mother died while I was in Iraq. Most of my relatives live in New York, while some in Denver, Baltimore, Toronto, London, Rome, and Sydney.

My favorite sports are badminton and cricket but I haven't played them in years. In high school, I played Varsity Badminton and Tennis. I love all kinds of music

except Heavy Metal/Punk Rock. I listen to Hip Hop/R&B, Rock, Country, Techno, House/Eastern European, Classical, Spanish, African, Arabic, and Hindi/Pakistani. My hobbies are trying to make something new anytime I have a chance to cook, traveling, and helping others in any capacity I possibly can. My mom has always been my ideal.

The Afghans that work with us love me because I can speak Urdu (official language of Pakistan) with most of them. I enjoy drinking green tea (kawa) with them and try to clear any rumors and answer any questions they have about America. These guys are too naive. They have nothing except their open hearts and great hospitality. Everyday for 2-3 hours, I run the Camp Tillman clinic. Corporal Patrick Tillman, the former millionaire football player who left his team to become an Army Ranger, was killed in action near our camp. I see patients of all ages with illnesses and injuries I previously read only in the books. Everyday, I see Afghans with TB, malaria, leishmaniasis, pneumonia, leprosy, typhoid, and various types of trauma.

We have between 20 to 25 guys in our section. Let me know if you want to know anything else about me, our unit, and Afghanistan. Our Executive Officer has started a monthly newsletter regarding our life and things we are doing at Camp Tillman. Let me know if you want me to add your email address in his list. Our camp is in a very isolated, one of the most hostile regions in Afghanistan.

Thanks again for supporting the American Soldier!

This is my Anysoldier website where you can read more about our lifestyle and see 2 of my recent pictures from Afghanistan.

<http://anysoldier.com/WhereToSend/Dynamic.cfm?SEQNO=4512&popup=no>

MOHAMMAD S. AHMED

ATTN: ANY SOLDIER
TF 1-508/D-319TH/2ND PLT
APO, AE 09354 USA

Thanks for keeping us in your hearts and minds.