

Christmas 2025 - Wonderful THANK YOU notes from our troops. (27 Pages)



The Medics of the 1-102nd INF wish you a Merry Christmas. This season reminds us of the importance of family, service, and unity. We are grateful for the strength and support of those who stand beside us. Wishing you a joyful Christmas and a New Year filled with peace, health, and blessings.

Bethany and I wanted to share this picture from our Delaware Dr. Chris and his Medical Team in Jordan.

Thank you, Judy and the Stockings For Soldiers Elves, for your Big and Warm Hearts and for allowing us to join you and your mission ☺ ☺

Love, Jaynette and Bethany



Good Morning, Ms. Travis,
I wanted to send a note sincerely thanking you for the holiday packages and stockings that your organization sent our Soldiers here in 2nd Cavalry Regiment in Tower Barracks, Germany. For many of the Soldiers who will be spending the holidays overseas away from their families, these stockings were really meaningful, and the Soldiers really appreciated all of the thoughtful snacks and goodies. Thank you so much for thinking of us. We appreciate you and all that you do, and all the best holiday wishes to you and your family.

Respectfully, Clara B. 1LT, EN
1st Platoon Leader
2d Cavalry Regiment, Tower Barracks, Germany



(From another Medical Team in Jordan ☺)

We received the stockings.
Thank you so much!

Dear Chief Elf in Charge,

I wanted to thank you for the Christmas Stocking that I received. There were some very useful surprises and yummy treats. Please extend my gratitude to the other elves of West Point Parents Club of Delaware, Delaware Area Rotarians and Girl Scouts of Chesapeake Bay Council.

Very much appreciated,

MICHELE O.
LTC, MS
Medical Operations Planner
Army Reserve Engagement Cell (AREC)
U.S. Army Central (USARCENT)

Good afternoon,

My platoon received a few of your care packages, I wanted to thank you it really meant a lot and it is very nice to have a piece of home. We are 2nd Platoon of Combat Engineer Company-Stryker 2nd Cavalry Regiment. We are based out of Grafenwoehr Germany, we are very appreciative I have included a couple pictures as well I wish I could send more but my soldiers were too excited to wait.

Have good holidays,

Nathan L.
1LT, EN
Alpha Troop "Argonaut"
Regimental Engineer Squadron
2nd Cavalry Regiment
Tower Barracks, Germany



Judy -

I wanted to personally thank you for the generous care packages you sent our way. We are currently deployed to the Middle East with the 34th Infantry Division, and as one of the leaders in this unit, I can tell you that your kindness has provided a massive boost to morale. Being away from family during the holidays is tough for many of our soldiers, and opening these gifts truly brightens their spirits.

A little about me: I'm a fellow Minnesotan from Monticello, now living in Buffalo. My wife and I have two daughters, a three-year-old and an eight-month-old. It's difficult watching them grow and carry on with daily life from afar, especially since my "wild-child" toddler seems to have endless energy!

Thank you for thinking of us. It means more than you know.

Tyler M.
Buffalo, MN
MN Army National Guard



Good morning Judy,

I'm with 760th EOD out in the Middle East right now and just got your package. Thank you so much for taking the time to make and send them.

Merry Christmas!

Derek A.

("Explosive Ordnance Disposal")

Judy,

My son, 1LT Garrett S., just received one of your stockings. He is currently on a rotation in Germany and this is the first Christmas we will spend without him. To say the least, he was very excited to receive your gift. I cannot thank you enough for your organization and the joy you bring to soldiers away from home at this time of year. It truly means the world to them and **to the families missing them back home**.

Thank you, thank you!!!

Melinda S.

Thank you so much!
We received
our stockings!

From Grafenwöehr, Germany



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Judy,

THANK YOU! As an extremely honored recipient of one of the hand-made stockings stuffed with love, I am extremely grateful for the thought, care, TREATS, and kind words.

Many of the sailors onboard **USS ARLEIGH BURKE**, that were also recipients, feel the same way.

Reading the "HOLIDAY BLESSINGS TO YOU..." card I notice it says Girl Scouts of Chesapeake Bay Council. If I can return the holiday spirit to you or your girl scouts, in the form of a care package of goodies from Spain, please let me know. It would be my pleasure.

Happy Holidays, **Kenneth B.**
Main Propulsion Assistant (MPA)
USS ARLEIGH BURKE (DDG 51)

"It's hard to be grumpy when you're listening to OZZY"

-Mahatma Ghandi

Good afternoon,

I received my stocking from you all, and I just wanted to extend my gratitude and appreciation to you.

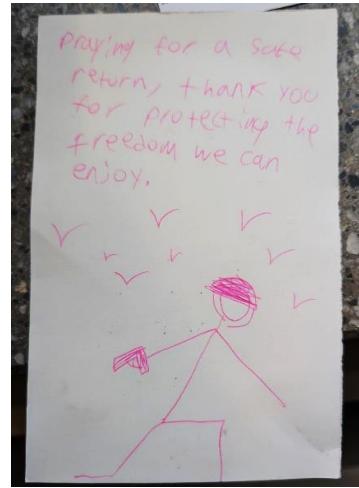
Thank you so much for thinking of my battles and me during this time!

Respectfully,

*SGT Ashle H.
USAR, 387th Medical Logistics Company
Al Udeid AB, Qatar*

Good morning, this is PFC ALLEN stationed in Grafenwoehr. I just want to say how appreciative I am for the goodie bag, it made my holiday 100 times better. But unfortunately there was no name on my card if you're able to find the one who made it I would appreciate it if you passed along my message to them. I've attached a picture of the card I hope it helps you find them.

X. Allen
Grafenwoehr, Germany



Good afternoon –

I received the box from Stockings for Soldiers – and I can't thank you enough! This is amazing! If this is what you send to the soldiers – then WOW!

The Generosity of everyone is very much appreciated and all the time and effort in putting these boxes together is amazing.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart! I wish you and everyone a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Susan M.
Andale, KS (Army Wife)

I just received my Stocking for the holiday. Thank You!!!! I got a letter from Ann and Jane.
Happy holidays!!!!!!

Respectfully, Jesus C.
224th FI BN Task Force Diamond ◇
Camp Arifjan (AJ), Kuwait 🐫

Good morning,
I wanted to say thank you from me and my soldiers for the stockings.
We received them a couple days ago and as you can see from the attached pictures, they were pretty excited about them! A few of us have been deployed before so it's nothing new to miss holidays with family, but other soldiers I have, this is their first time deploying and being so far from home over the holiday season.
These packages meant a lot.



V/R K. Rupert, SSG/USAR 903rd ITC

Stockings For Soldiers,

We received your care packages! They made its way all the way to **Kosovo**. Thank you so much, it truly lifted our spirits! We are thankful that you took the time to bake us cookies and fill boxes with some of our favorite treats from home!

We will continue to share the gifts with fellow soldiers! Again, thank you for your kindness and thoughtfulness! We will share pictures with you soon!

Happy Holidays!

Respectfully, Shy G.

CPT, OF-2, U.S. Commander, 101st Public Affairs Detachment, Regional Command East

Hi Judy:)

This is SO exciting!!!

Everyone is receiving all of their packages.

Ms. Judy ❤

Quick update on CSM Metcalf...

We received 22 boxes the first day, 11 boxes the 2nd day, and I have another delivery I am picking up tomorrow. So that will probably be it!

CSM Morgan just received a notice to pick up packages tomorrow from post office. I will keep you posted 😊.

Thank you again for being an absolute blessing!! Both of these CSMs are BEYOND excited for their soldiers!!

You are bringing so much joy to so many 😊 ❤!!!

Thank you 🙏 for everything!!!

Hugs- Amy

CSM Morgan plans to drive them to Poland tomorrow.

The Metcalfs were absolutely thrilled!!! I'll remind everyone to share pictures ❤

Bless you & your team!!!

Hugs- Amy

Hey Judy!

The soldiers were so excited, and here is photo of me passing them out today ❤ I cannot thank you enough for this, it really brightened our days!

A. Carrell

Hey Judy!

All of the boxes made it safely, and they were so excited! The soldiers have them hanging outside of their rooms.

My Facebook memories reminded me that I also received a stocking from your organization when I was deployed in 2014. It's so cool how everything

comes full circle, and it's amazing to see that your organization is still making an impact. Again, I cannot thank you enough for what you do, and for helping Apache Troops holidays be a little brighter! ❤ M. Carrell



Hi Judy (aka Chief Elf in Charge)!

My name is Camryn, my buddy Chloe and I are combat engineers from Oregon currently deployed to Africa.

A Christmas stocking was just delivered to Chloe and my place of work tonight!

I just wanted to say thank you for the time and effort taken to bring Christmas spirit here to us. Being away from home during the holidays is tough, and all of our new friends in Delaware brought home and the holidays to us.

Notes and gifts like this make every hard moment of this deployment so so worth it.

We hope you have a wonderful holiday season. Thank you so so much and God bless,

Camryn and Chloe

Good afternoon,

I wanted to take a moment to say thank you for the small gifts that meant something big.

The Christmas stockings and the handwritten letters from the children may seem simple, but they carry something powerful — kindness, gratitude, and genuine support from people who believe in us.

My Soldiers reading those letters remind us why we serve and who we serve: families, communities, and the next generation.

Those kids took the time to write words of encouragement to soldiers they may never meet, and that means more than they'll ever know. In the middle of long days and demanding missions, those small gestures lift morale, restore perspective, and bring a bit of Christmas spirit into uniform.



Please know that every stocking was appreciated, and every kind word landed where it mattered most.

From all of us in our Company, a Big Thank you!

Respectfully, NATHANIEL T.

CPT, MP, TXARNG

Commanding Ice Company Task Force Hawk OLS

Greetings from the Middle East,

My name is Sergeant Josey R. My company just received our special gift of stockings. I wanted to reach out to let you know how much we really appreciate the time and effort put into these gifts. Holidays away from home can be very difficult. This has brought joy to our day. Thank y'all!

Josey

Tue, Dec 23 at 11:40 AM

This is SSG E. Muller,

I wanted you to have some pictures of where my stocking ended up. I am currently deployed in Somalia, so receiving these stockings for myself and the 3 other soldiers that are with me made our week! So thank you.

The tree you see my wife made and sent me, the little tins at the bottom of the tree are from you guys and there is my stocking.

Thank you again and Merry Christmas. Keep us and our families in your prayers! Please know all the hard work and love you guys put into each and everyone of these stockings was and is appreciated. Thank you again and God Bless you and our amazing country.



West Point Parent Club of Delaware,

Thank you so much for such lovely care packages. My guys and I really enjoy them! We really appreciate the time everyone took to put everything together and to ensure that all of us have a little taste of the holiday spirit.

Happy Holidays

4th Combat Aviation Brigade



Ma'am,

Last week I was the recipient of a care package prepared by your organization. I really wanted to reach out and say thank you.

I've been in the army for over 18 years, and this isn't my first holiday season away from home. It is never easy.

I just wanted to thank you and your group for your kind gesture which genuinely made my day.

TIMOTHY G.
MAJ, MP
Executive Officer



Judy,

The Soldiers absolutely loved the stockings. They couldn't believe their names were written on them...it meant so much to them. Thank you to your entire team for bringing so much joy.

CH Taylor

Hi Judy and Bob & Laura!
Your names were listed in a care package...the Chief Elf-in-Charge and Guiding Eyes for service dogs! Anyhow, I just wanted to shoot you a quick note to say thank you for the Christmas stocking. I'm Col Eric T. (USMC) and oversee the Intelligence Directorate for Operation INHERENT RESOLVE, which oversees military actions in Iraq and Syria. We're headquartered out of Erbil, Iraq. Having been to through this rodeo a few times over the past decades, places like Erbil actually aren't that bad compared to where Iraq used to be. Regardless, our troops are still away from home, and for many it's the first time in their lives...not to mention the recent loss of our brethren in Syria are a reminder that it still sucks at times here. But that's why I want to say thank you for the stockings to everyone here; it means a lot and gives a touch of home no matter where we are.



Below are some pics of our mighty intel crew on Thanksgiving. It's a Joint Coalition that includes the British and reps from all the armed services as well as intel civilians too (truly a united hodge podge). We wish you the best and again thanks!!

V/R,

Col Eric T., USMC

CJ2 Director, CJTF-OIR (Erbil)

I wanted to personally thank you and your team for the tremendous work and generosity that you've shown to us during this holiday season. The packages meant a lot and we all appreciated the kindness. It certainly helps brighten the day and shows the spirit this time of year brings.

Thank you again.

Patrick M. SMSgt, USAF
Flight Chief, Deployment & Distribution
332d Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron



Ms. Travis,

I can't express the joy and excitement my soldiers had when they saw not only stockings but individual stockings WITH THEIR NAMES ON THEM. (: You have an amazing community of supporters and volunteers.



These pictures are my soldiers located in Iraq. I will be sending stockings to Kuwait and Syria as well. If I can get some pictures, I'll send those to you.

Again, amazing effort and if your intent was to bring happiness to deployed soldiers, you succeeded in your mission.

Thanks isn't enough.

v/r LTC Jodi M.
TF NYALA Commander
334 BSB IA ARNG

Dear Ms. Travis,

Thank you so much for the sleigh-load of stockings and loot you sent out to my Sailors on **USS FORT WORTH!** They were so encouraged by your thoughtful gifts and especially loved reading the notes from the Girl Scouts and schools.

FORT WORTH is a **FREEDOM**-Class Littoral Combat Ship—the only one of its class on the West Coast! Our ship has been in an extended maintenance period, which can be discouraging for Sailors as they're engaged in upkeep and repairs, and not necessarily using their skills while at sea on deployment. As a crew, we've supported every Littoral Combat Ship deployment in 2025 by providing some of our trained Sailors to fill skills and leadership shortfalls on other ships and have used this method to keep our Sailors going to sea! Thank you so much for thinking of them this year — it means a lot.

If you all ever find yourselves in San Diego, CA, I hope you'll give me a call so I can show you the ship. Thank you very much and Merry Christmas!

Very respectfully, CDR Dana C. Skipper USS FORT WORTH (LCS 3)

GRIT AND TENACITY!



Commanding Officer
USS FORT WORTH (LCS 3)
Unit 100228 Box 1
FPO AP 96665

6 Jan 2026

Dear Judy,

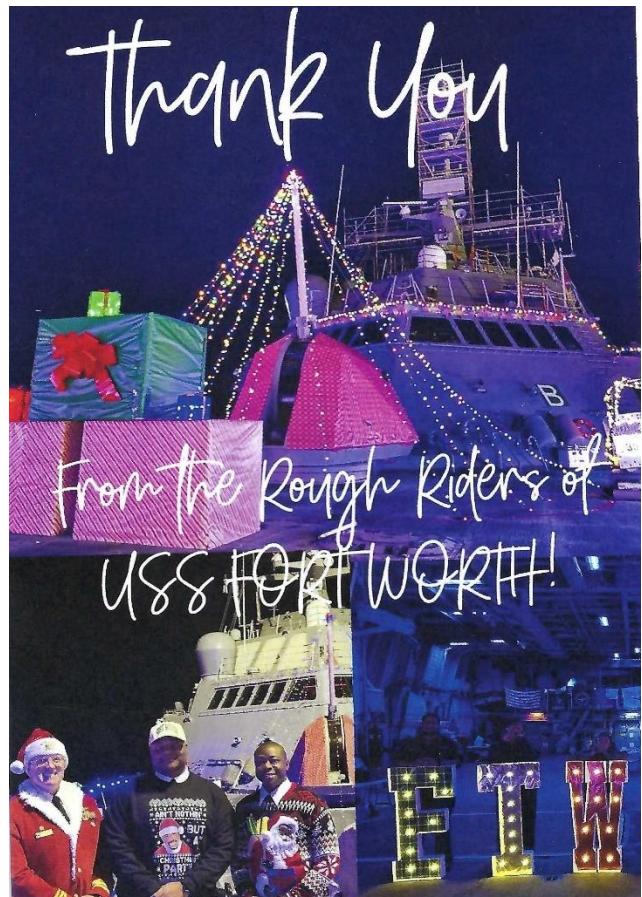
Happy New Year from San Diego, California! Thank you so much for putting together the Stockings for Soldiers for USS FORT WORTH (and for allowing a bunch of "squids" to be included in the program)! Over the holiday period, our galley was closed and our Sailors stood duty two-days-on/two-days-off, so the snacks and toiletries were much appreciated by all hands. My crew LOVED the letters from the Girl Scouts—they brought a great deal of joy and laughter to folks who, while stationed stateside, are still away from their family homes for the holidays.

While the ship remained pier-side through 2025, members of the crew supported every deployment by Littoral Combat Ship Squadron ONE ships, often returning with awards, senior qualifications, and requests by the supported ship to keep the Rough Riders onboard. The crew also participated in training events for every Basic Division Officer Course held in San Diego this year, influencing the future careers of every new junior Officer bound for Pacific-based ships! Our Sailors painted the entire ship, took-on several maintenance tasks normally covered by repair depots, and continued to earn advanced qualifications by training onboard and in the simulators in Mayport, Florida. USS FORT WORTH Sailors stand ready to answer the nation's call in any circumstance and in any ocean.

Thank you for your support to our country's Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Airmen, Coast Guardsmen, and Guardians. We are truly blessed to be stewards of your ship, and I am excited to see what the crew accomplishes in 2026.

GRIT AND TENACITY!,

Dana [REDACTED]
Commanding Officer
USS FORT WORTH (LCS 3)



Greetings from Syria!

I am a deployed Soldier who received one of your stockings. It meant so much to receive it in this barren place. Thank you to your team and all of the Delaware folks that were involved.

Blessings, Timothy H.



To Whom it May Concern,

Hello! Just wanted to take a moment and thank you and the folks who put together holiday stocking for us while we are deployed. The sincere heart-felt gesture meant the world to many Soldiers over here. Thank you for your kindness and for spreading warmth to us over the holidays!!

-Sarah

Hello Judy,

I am Master Sergeant Timothy G. from the South Carolina Army National Guard currently serving in the Middle East. I received your stocking and wanted to say from the bottom of my heart to you and your organization thank you very much. It means a lot to me and I will keep this with me so that when I get home to my family it will be my new stocking for the years to come. Please thank the Rotarians, West Point Parents Club and the Girl Scouts who made this happen and may God bless you all!

MSG Timothy G.

S4-Logistics Senior Maintenance Supervisor
117th Engineer Brigade, Task Force Castle



Judy Travis and team of Stocking For Soldiers Staff and Volunteers,

I am from the SAG-U / NSATU Chapel team and I want to extend the appreciation from our deployed members as I had an absolutely amazing time handing out all the stockings to our folks.

Although I wasn't the person that care packages were sent to, I was glad the leadership team here decided to have the Chapel team hand them out. Your team impacted over **500 members** and it was a joy to see the smiles on their faces.

Below is another email from 'sendwishonline.' I put it together because I think it's important that all the volunteers know they truly are making an impact on our service members. The virtual Thank You card is a small token where members were able to express their gratitude for all the amazing work that your organization does.

Thank you!

V/r,

JARED R., MSgt, USAF
Senior Enlisted Leader, Religious Affairs
Security Assistance Group-Ukraine (SAG-U)
NATO Security Assistance & Training for Ukraine (NSATU)

Good day,

I just wanted to express our gratitude; we are forever grateful for the goodies and stockings. Thank you for your support this holiday season! See attachments for pictures of our Ammo troops receiving and enjoying their goodies.

Gloria B.



Judy,

I just want to personally thank you for the individual stockings and gifts you sent to me and my team. We are so grateful for the support we receive from people like you!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

COL Melissa M. , AN Commander
"One Mission: Saving Lives"
3D Theater Medical Command (TMC), (Forward)
Camp Arifjan, Kuwait

Good morning!

I just wanted to say thank you so much for all of the stockings that you all sent. We received all of them around 16 Dec, so the timing was perfect to sort through everything. We really enjoyed being able to pass out personalized stockings for all of our personnel to bring them some holiday joy while being away from their families. Your support means a lot to us. I've attached a couple of photos as well. Again, thank you so much!



Caroline G.



Dear West Point Parents, Rotary Club, and Girl Scouts,
Thank you SOOOOOO much for your thoughtful gifts in sending us stockings for Christmas! They were very well received and it so nice to know that there are groups such as yours who do kind things for others. To quote Shakespeare: "So shines a good deed in a weary world." Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

~ Stephen S.

Thank you for the care packages, I hope you also have a Merry Christmas. I especially appreciated the hand knitted beanie hat, socks, and treats.

~ CPT Ryan E.

Hello, I just wanted to say thank you so much for the gifts.
It really warmed my heart and filled it with joy and happiness.
God bless each of you, and Merry Christmas!

~ Erik V.





The wonderful stocking full of goodies came at the perfect time. Thanks!

~ John

I appreciate the well wishes from you all. Your support brightens our day's here at Security Assistance Group Ukraine. Thank you again! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

~ MSgt Logan M.

Thank you so much for your kind thoughts!! I love the stocking with the dogs on it and can't wait to bring it home to show my family! Thank you!!

~ CDR Jason O.

Dear All,

Thank you so much for your support from back home! It means the world to us deployed to have such a thoughtful gift during the holiday!! Have a great holiday season and a Happy New Year in 2026!!!

Best regards,

Brittany R., Lieutenant Colonel, US Army



Thank you for taking the time and effort to make, sort, package, and write all the things! We cannot thank you enough. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year this year and all the years to come!

_ Ivan M. USN

The knitted hat was so cute! Thanks

~ Maddie



Good morning,

I am an Officer of the Italian Air Force re-deployed in Kuwait and I received your Christmas Stocking with my name on it made by you. I would like to thank you very much for your job, it is very important for all of us here.

I am proud to serve with your Country and defend our Nations.

Mattia F.



It was an awesome surprise! Thank you for keeping us in your minds and hearts. We hope you all have a joyful holiday season.

~ A Grateful Soldier

From one Delawarean to another, thank you for making our Christmas special here in Germany.

~ Stephen

Thank you so very much for your generous gifts! Being so far away from family and friends is different but you made it special. I saw other soldiers with big smiles as they unpacked their stockings. Thank you.

~ 1LT Joan R.

Thank you, Delaware, for giving me socks, Snickers, and a wife (Wilmington native).

GOOOOOO BIRDS!!!!!!

~ Dan K.

Thank you for thinking about us and sending the very thoughtful Christmas care packages!!! They brought lots of joy to all of us here at SAG-U! Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!!!

~ SGT Samantha D.



Sincere Thanks for the Holiday Cheer
To Stockings For Soldiers and the kids from Delaware, Thank you so much for the Christmas stocking filled with candy and other treats. Being away from home for the holidays can be tough, but your thoughtful gift brought a huge smile to my face and a much-needed piece of home.

It means a great deal to know that we have your support. Your kindness truly makes a difference.

Wishing you all a very happy holiday season!

With gratitude,
A Grateful Soldier

~ Tatyana

The gifts were incredibly meaningful and GREATLY appreciated! It is hard being away from home and family over the holidays and your gift made a huge difference. Thank you!!!

~ Justin H. , CDR, USN

Thank you for the support much appreciated the candy and socks were great!!!!!!

~ CWO Ramon P.

Thank you for the stocking stuffer. It brightens my day during a time I am away from my family. Merry Christmas

~ Debra S.

Thank you so much for the wonderful Christmas stocking full of goodies! It's not a lot of fun being away from my wife and children for Christmas, and your thoughtful (and bountiful!) care package really puts a smile on my face. May each one of you have a joyful and peaceful Christmas.

~ Kurt M.

Thank you so much for the stocking and care package. Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated as we are so far away from family and friends. Thanks for ensuring we felt the MAGIC of Christmas!

~ Lt Col G.



These stockings were such a welcome surprise! We had no idea but were all very excited to receive them. Thank you so much, Merry Christmas!

~ SSgt Cavallo

THANK
YOU!

Thanks for sending us some much-needed Christmas cheer! 🎅
-- Petty Officer First Class Green

Your kindness means more than you know. Being deployed and away from home during the holidays isn't easy, and receiving something so thoughtful truly lifted my spirits. I appreciate your support and generosity; it reminds me how thoughtful others can be.

~ Monica A.

Really appreciated the thought and care, it meant a lot out here in the cold and dreariness of Germany. A little reminder of home.

~ Eric



Thank you for the warm wishes and the sweet treats! Happy Holidays!

~ CPT Denise L.

THANKS FOR YOUR Support!

Thank you all so so much! It very heartwarming to know others are thinking about us while we're serving our country.

~ Gino D., Civ

Thank you so much!! Awesome surprise to have a stocking on Christmas.

~ Jon W.



It was absolutely wonderful receiving the care package from Stockings For Soldiers. It made my day!
~ Deployed member

Thank you so much for taking the time to put together these care packages for everyone. Our organization works 24/7 and many people here are away from their friends and families to help protect the USA and this gesture makes that task a little easier to do.

Everyone here hopes you have an amazing holiday and a very Merry Christmas!

~ Chris W.



We are deeply grateful for the care packages and the incredible support to our unit. These thoughtful gestures mean more than words can express, bringing comfort, encouragement, and a reminder that they are appreciated and not forgotten. Your generosity and kindness make a real difference in boosting morale and showing our soldiers that their service and sacrifice are truly valued. Thank you for standing with them during this deployment.

RESPECTFULLY, JOSUE D.
6-9 CAV 3BDE
RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS SPECIALIST



Judy,
Good morning and Happy New Year to you as well. Sorry for the delay in getting back to you. We did receive the boxes and on behalf of all the Soldiers here, we would like to say thank you for the stockings. I have attached some pictures as well.

1SG Granville P.
117th Engineer Brigade / TF Castle



Good morning, Mrs. Travis!

On behalf of our entire unit and our Commander, I would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to "Stockings for Soldiers" for the care packages we received. The outpouring of support from home, evidenced by the thoughtful and generous items in each stocking, was a significant morale boost for our soldiers. It is a profound feeling to know that we are in your thoughts, and your kindness has not gone unnoticed. These gestures, no matter how small they may seem, make a world of difference to those of us serving far from home.

We hope that you, and all the members of your organization, have a wonderful and prosperous New Year. Your support is a true gift, and we are deeply grateful.

Sincerely,

1SG Ramon A. USCENTCOM CUSTOMS 229th MP CO, Arifjan Kuwait

"If you really want to do something, you will find a way. If not, you'll find an excuse" Jim Rohn





Good morning ma'am,

Here are just a few of the photos we have. I will be sending you some more when I get them.

Thank you again for the support.

Michael B.



Dear Chief Elf in Charge,

I wanted to thank you for the Christmas Stocking that I received. There were some very useful surprises and yummy treats. Please extend my gratitude to the other elves of West Point Parents Club of Delaware, Delaware Area Rotarians and Girl Scouts of Chesapeake Bay Council.

Very much appreciated,

LTC MICHELE O.

Medical Operations Planner
Army Reserve Engagement Cell (AREC) U.S. Army Central (USARCENT)

Miss Judy Travis or "Elf in charge",

My name is Dylan H. and I am serving in the Iowa Army National Guard. Currently, I am deployed to a remote austere base in Syria and a convoy from Iraq brought a pleasant surprise along with the mail. The Christmas stocking with my name on it was a big hit and I want you to know how grateful I am for your kindness. My Medics also thoroughly enjoyed theirs! We don't have a great deal out here, but we definitely have everything we need. Your presents are a nice bit of extra and holiday cheer. It is an honor and privilege to serve citizens such as yourself and I know that I am very grateful for the time, consideration, and effort you put into all of these fine gifts. Please convey my heartfelt thanks to your organization and its members. My tour will end in the spring and I shall be eager to return home. From thousands of miles away- you brightened my day! Thank you.

Major Dylan H. IA Army National Guard



Judy, a.k.a Chief Elf,

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the Stockings for all of my soldiers. They are starting to arrive and are immediately lifting the morale of my team. Please share my thanks with all your team. We are so grateful for your support.

Erin F.

Good morning Mrs. Travis! On behalf of the Behavioral health team and the S4 platoon from 2/34th HHC INF brigade, we want to thank you so much for the stockings and all the goodies! The socks and hygiene items were also super beneficial items!! We appreciate you all so much!! We hope you had a great Christmas and a Happy New Year!!

Sincerely,

Abigail G.

2/34th HHC INF BDE

Behavioral Health Specialist

From: Denise H.

I wanted to take a moment and express my appreciation for all those responsible for sending stockings to the ANG serving in Jordan.

My daughter Cameryn received one along with fellow soldiers and I want everyone to know how much they appreciated it. They took pictures with the stockings.

My gift for my daughter didn't arrive on time. But she received your card with such warm words and a stocking with her name on it and it made it that much more personal. You would think the Middle East had no need for socks. Well at the moment it is very cold there, so perfect.

I just want everyone who donated, decorated the stockings or participated in any means they are appreciated. The soldiers absolutely loved them and made them feel not so alone.

So God bless each of you. In a world of uncertainty and simply selfish mean-spirited people, you reminded them and I know my family that wonderful kind people do still exist.

Much love from the family of Spc Cameryn W., 229th MP Co



Good Afternoon from Poland Judy,

Happy new year! I received your stockings and other goods. We were able to put the stockings and other goods together as gift packages for our Soldiers on Christmas. Attached are photos that I would like to share with you. Thank you so much for your support.

Blessings,

CH (CPT) Guan Z.
Battalion Chaplain
215th Brigade
Support Battalion

3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team,
1st Cavalry Division





Good morning Miss. Judy,

Happy Monday! I hope this email finds you well.

I want to personally thank you and your team for the dedication and service to the troops. It fills me with such joy that there are organizations run by amazing people like you who lead with a graceful purpose in life.

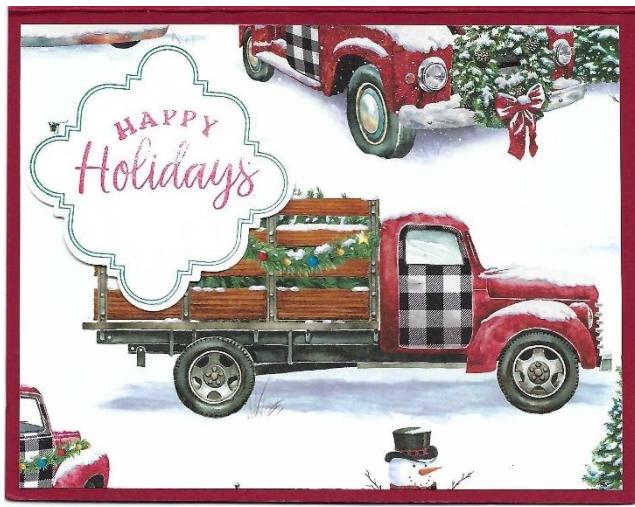
Here is a picture of one of our amazing Soldiers, SSG B. Stabler! ❤

Warm Regards,

SGT Leijah L.

3d Theater Medical Command, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait

From: Gina M.



Miss Judy,

I sincerely thank you for coordinating the timely delivery of all of the stockings to my field hospital unit! They were filled with such thoughtful items to nourish our mind, soul and stomachs (we are huge fans of books, sweets and cards!) Your generous support truly helped to lift our spirits, especially as many of our soldiers are navigating their first holiday season away from family and in a deployed environment. As we near the end of our deployment and reflect on what got us through some challenging times, the support of organizations such as yours comes first to mind. It reminds us of the big picture of our work and support from those who may not know us personally is truly touching and motivating. Wishing you and your family a happy, healthy (and hopefully relaxing) holiday season + New Year! -Respectfully, Gina

Dear Stockings For Soldiers – Delaware, Inc.,

Thank you so much for the beautiful handmade Christmas stockings. We were especially touched that the stockings had our names on it, it made the gift feel incredibly personal and meaningful. Receiving our favorite chocolate along with a book that we are truly excited to begin reading brought us so much joy.

Your thoughtfulness, time and care did not go unnoticed. Moments like these are a powerful reminder that we are supported and appreciated, even while serving away from home. Your generosity truly made this Christmas special.

Thank you for all that you do to support Service members. We are sincerely grateful. With heartfelt appreciation.

Sgt. Cinthia A. & Sgt. Fayja W.

Ms. Travis,

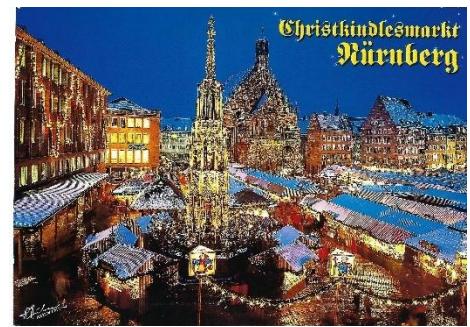
Thank you so much for the stocking! It was so nice to get a personalized stocking for the holidays. I hope you and your family had a very happy holiday too. Please thank all the other elves :)

Katie (Kuwait)

Chief Elf-In-Charge,

On behalf of our unit, thank you for the incredible Christmas stockings. Being deployed away from home for almost a year has been challenging, but your generosity brought real cheer to all of us.

We handed out the stockings and they were proudly displayed in our office and living spaces. Your kindness reminded us, "we're not forgotten" and truly grateful for your support. **Sgt. Nichols**



I got this delivered to me today and wanted to thank yall for making such a thoughtful gift for me and my fellow soldiers. Thank you for taking the time to think of us and getting this together. Even the smallest things help to get us through. Keep up the good work.

SFC Brenton J.



Thank you for everything

Your generous donation of stockings for everyone is so appreciated!

Grateful members of the Minnesota Air National Guard, deployed in Kuwait

Members of the MINNESOTA National Guard In Kuwait.

Ms. Travis,

Please accept my sincere thank you for the Christmas Stocking sent by the Stockings for Soldiers team! They truly brought a smile to everyone's face. Thank you again and I wish you the best during this Holiday season.

Merry Christmas!

Timothy H.

MAJ, MS, Chief of Operations

3D Theater Medical Command (Forward)

Camp Arifjan, Kuwait



KUWAIT TOWERS - KUWAIT CITY

Thank you so much for the stocking! An amazing surprise and boosted the morale of all of our Soldiers. Thank you for your support and for making a difference!



GULF MEMORIES

RAZZAK CARD GULF 2026



To

Chief Elf Judy T.
1911 Foulk Rd.
Wilmington, DE
19810

Code

Country USA

RAZZAK CARDS - GULF • Tel.: Kuwait (965) 1805151 • Fax : 24335343 • Gulf Memories Editions

Graciousness Judy,

I pray all is well and Happy New Year. I am contacting you from the Southern Border Mission in Texas and I am Monique D., the Battalion Chaplain.

I want to thank and celebrate your team for your support to our Battalion this Christmas. From your organization's cheerful giving, we were able to make a significant impact for our troops.

I pray that you, your family and "Stockings For Soldiers" will continue to be a blessing for deployed Service Members. May your 2026 be filled with joy and happiness, and with all gratefulness we say THANK YOU.

Please thank Nadia Kennedy for us as well.

Blessings,
CH (CPT) Monique D., Chaplain
Empire
104th Military Police Battalion
Spiritual Care ~ With Excellence

Judy a.k.a.
Chief Elf,



Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the Stockings for all of my Soldiers. They are starting to arrive and are immediately lifting the morale of my team. Please share my thanks with all your team. We are so grateful for your support!

ERIN H. F.

E. H. F.



Good morning Ms. Travis,

I wanted to take a moment to thank you for your kind care package you sent to my unit. This past year has not been easy, and this Christmas was the first one for many of us without our families. Service is not always easy, but knowing that someone back home was thinking of us really meant a lot to my troops and myself.

Take care and thank you again for your kindness.

V/R,

CPT Donald H.
Task Force Diamond / 224 FIBN
Camp Arifjan, Kuwait



From one of our great Team Leaders:

Judy

As always, thank you for including us in your amazing project. Unfortunately, I was unable to join you as many times as I would have liked ... but the few times I did make it - **it was magical**.

So many new friends this year and so much hard work goes into this program we are just happy to be along for the ride.

Looking forward to next year already, Lisa

Notes from last year:

🎄 🌲 **MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**

👏👏 **Wooo! Thank you for the Christmas stockings**

From: TASK FORCE Liberty.

We are truly grateful for your support.

Regina



From: Alec R.

Dear Chief Elf-in-Charge ,

Just wanted to reach out with a warm thanks from all the soldiers in my section; your gifts and holiday wishes were a huge morale boost to everyone! Thank you for letting everyone know that they are being thought about this holiday season; especially those who may not be able to spend time with loved ones. I just wanted to reach out and ensure that you know your actions are very much appreciated by everyone and do not go unnoticed. Thank you again and have a wonderful holiday season!

Ms. Judy Travis,

On behalf of the 142d Military Police Brigade, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the handmade Christmas stockings and thoughtful snacks. The personal touch and attention to detail in each stocking made them truly special. Your kindness reminded our deployed service members that we are not alone, and it helped ease the homesickness during the holidays. Knowing that friends and neighbors like you are thinking about us means more than words can express. God Bless!

MSG Jennifer M. JTF-GTMO

FYI: [Military Units: Army \(defense.gov\)](http://Army (defense.gov))

According to the U.S. Dept. of Defense, the U.S. Army consists of the following members:

of people in a Platoon – 36 Service Members
of people in a Company – 200 Service Members
of people in a Battalion – 1,000 Service Members
of people in a Brigade – 5,000 Service Members
of people in a Division – 15,000 Service Members
of people in a Corps – 45,000 Service Members

For the past 22 years, **Stockings For Soldiers** has sent 169,000 stockings to our deployed Servicemen and women and 343 tons of Goodies.

Each year, we have sent approximately 8,000 to 10,000 stockings.

Amazingly, we have supported over 11 Divisions of our great U.S. troops over the years. **Yeay!!**

THANK YOU to all who have helped us to achieve these great accomplishments.



Thank You to all our troops for sending us so many wonderful and great messages of their appreciation. These emails serve as our inspiration for **Stockings For Soldiers** to continue to try to "make a positive difference" in their lives.

Our main Mission is to make sure our troops know that they have not been forgotten by the American people.

Thank You, again, to all the Members of the Military who have volunteered to Serve our great Country and we Thank their families.

"They also serve who only stand and wait." **

Thank You to our many amazing Team Leaders and volunteers who work with us each year to make our project possible.

Judy Travis

Project Founder & Coordinator

** From John Milton's "When I Consider How My Light is Spent."

We'll look forward to seeing you all in

October 2026

