

Thank You Letters from Iraq

In December more than 100 members gathered to put together care packages for troops in Iraq. Local 63 members had voted to forego the annual holiday raffle and use the resources to acknowledge the soldiers risking their lives thousands of miles from home! Following are a commendation from the Army and grateful words from the troops.

Dear Teamster Members,

My name is Sergeant Rebecca Box. I'm from Louisiana and I have a son who is 6. I miss him a lot. This will be the first Christmas I will be without him. I am in Takrit, Iraq, it's really cold right now. It rains every once in a while. Around February it will start warming up again. It is really hot during the summer, it gets about 120 degrees. There is a famous river here, the Tigris, but that is the only water around, and it's about dried up. There is no water for as far as you can see and no trees. Maybe a few little plants here and there, but not much. Up north in Mosul, Iraq, there are mountains and lots of trees. Thanks again! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sgt. Box

Dear Teamsters Local 63,

My name is Daniel Snipe, and I am one of the soldiers overseas in Iraq that you sent a care package to. Just let me say thank you very much because I appreciated it. In your letter you said that the package was a small token, but to me it meant a whole lot.

Let me just tell you a little about me. I come from a family of 5. My Mom and Dad, who are happily married for 28 years now, and my two sisters. I don't have anyone special in my life right now, but that's a whole other story. I was born and raised in Santiago, a small town in the Dominican Republic. My home is Charleston, SC. My tour over here will be finished in June of 07. So until then I just want to thank you for everything. You really made my life better over here.

Always,
Daniel Snipe

Dear Teamsters Local 63 and all members;

Thank you so much. This Christmas has been really wonderful because of the kindness of everyone. Almost every soldier uses the items so much. We were on mission last night and the flashlights, pens and watches along with the binos and the candies were used to the fullest!

After we almost froze to death, my truck has no heater and our gunner was on top, we drove home and brewed the hot chocolate! Thank you so much!

It meant so much to us, you'll never know how grateful we are! "Thank you" .

I pray the holidays and this year are great... Thank you for all the cards and gifts - "Chapstick". You guys are lifesavers!!!

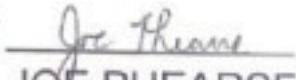
Spc Gregory Butacan
ACO 209th (4th Platoon) ASB

Certificate of Appreciation Is Awarded to Teamsters Local 63



In appreciation for your generous donations and support of Alpha Company, 209th Aviation Support Battalion during the Holiday Season. Your contributions impacted the morale, spirits, and motivation of our deployed Soldiers. Nothing fills our hearts and minds like knowing we have the support of friends and families back home. We are honored to serve because of individuals and groups like Teamsters Local 63




JOE PHEARSE
1SG, USA
First Sergeant


SCOTT F. WYATT
CPT, QM
Commanding



Dear Teamster Members,

First of all, I just want to say thanks for the care package that you all sent for me. I really appreciate the package and I am truly sorry that it is only a letter that I can give you all during this very special time of the year.

I also want to thank you guys for everything you are doing back there for our families, friends and us/troops out here in Iraq.

We are out here working everyday. Life is hard but we are making progress each day because of your support and everything you all are doing back there.

Once again, thank you guys for my package and it is nice to sometimes get a little something from home and know that there are people who actually care and support what we are doing out here everyday.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU ALL...
Augustine Yanruw.

Dear Ken,

This is Joseph Isokawa and I want to say thank you for sending me the care package you've sent me. It was thoughtful of ya'll to send them to all of us here in Iraq. This is my second tour out here. I refuel helicopters every day at work. It is exciting for me to do.

Thank you for your support in all of us.
Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Joseph Isokawa.
ACO 209th ASB