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Opinion: Editorial

Christmas in Karbala

Tuesday, November 28, 2006 7:43 PM EST

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The holiday season has arrived. While we settle in to enjoy the warmth and friendship the season often brings with it, we should take some time to remember those who are away from their loved ones as they serve in the military. Those thoughts turn particularly to the men and women who are serving in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Now is the time for those who advocate supporting our troops, even the increasing number who don't support what has become an unpopular war, to make that support more than lip service.

Serving in a war zone is not a pleasant experience. Serving in a war zone as the rest of your family and friends back home celebrate Christmas is as bad as it gets. But knowing that those you are fighting for appreciate your service can make it a little more bearable. And the best way to demonstrate that support is through packages and letters for the troops.

Several local organizations in the past have organized efforts to send care packages to service personnel. Those organizations or individuals who are currently undertaking such efforts are encouraged to contact the newspaper with that information so that we can publish it. Area residents who would like to work individually to send a card or a package to a troop serving in a war zone can do so by going to www.anysoldier.com for information or any other of a dozen or more sites that offer similar information.

Supporting our troops should be more than just a phrase. It should be a call to action that speaks louder than any words we can utter.

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