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YELLOWHAMMERING AFGHANISTAN

By Mike Tomberlin

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Going postal

Posted by

Michael Tomberlin September 24, 2007 8:00 AM



Sgt. James Tubbs shows us why the clothes people send us are intended for the Afghan people.

The only drawback to being the point-of-contact for the AnySoldier.com mail is getting cursed by those who pick up and deliver all the packages.

I recently received around 20 boxes of mail, two of which were for me personally. The rest were for all of us and the people and children of Afghanistan. As is always the case, once I unpacked the boxes and started sharing the wealth, I went from being the most hated man on Camp Vulcan to the most popular.

The recent avalanche of mail included boxes from some long-time supporters

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as a well as some new names in the "sender" box on the packing slip.

Most impressive were the many boxes from Rebecca Bartle of Fairfield, Iowa. For her Gold Award Project in Girls Scouts, she held a community-wide United We Stand care package drive. I'm also told she held an event for third-, fourth- and fifth-grade girls who wrote letters and learned the Pledge of Allegiance in sign language. Impressive. You rock, Rebecca.

Ginger Alachniewicz of New Liberty, Iowa, should be popular at the New Liberty Post Office. She sent us six boxes of food, clothing and books along with a nice letter. You put some real popular items in there among the Iowa guys on our team, Ginger.

Karen Gaspard of Metairie, La., sent us tons of spices and other items along with decorations that helped us deck out our deck in red, white and blue.



We were able to use care package items to pack goodie bags for Afghan children.

Frank and Charlotte Neely of West Point, Miss., sent us a box of food items that were very popular. The same is true of Gloria Hummel of Marietta, Ga.; Julie Omohundro of Durham, N. C.; and Norwalk United Methodist Church of Norwalk, Iowa. Francie and Dick Bodkin of Nampa, Idaho, continued to shower us with care package items for us and our recreation room and the Afghan children.

GE Energy and Ron and Linda Midlam of Pensacola sent me and the guys another terrific care package with tons of useful stuff.

Lisa Lewis of Encino, Cal., sent us a nice package and post card. The Care Package Mission Project in Iowa did the same, along with a letter from chairperson Laurel Yost. Delores Fiscalini of Novato, Cal., also sent a package of several different items.

Cindy and Chris St. John of Operation: Show Our Love continued showing their love with several large boxes of clothes, shoes and stuffed animals. We will be sending those out on some of our large, pre-winter humanitarian assistance visits to the poor, rural people of Afghanistan.

Kenia Fraiz of Hollywood, Fla., sent food and toys for our growing dog population here. She also sent something for the human population here.

My sisters, Donna and Sonya, sent me some of my favorite pecans from Priestler's Pecans in Fort Deposit, Ala., the best pecans on the planet. Sorry, but I won't be sharing those with the guys. My brother-in-law, Chris, included some great cigars and magazines in the same package.

There have also been a number of cards and letters from family and friends.

Saying "thank you" to all of you doesn't seem like enough. What you take the time to do lifts the spirits of all of us here. We appreciate the boxes, big and small, and all the items packed inside. We are thankful for all the kind words of encouragement.

But mostly we are touched by the love we know is included with every such gesture.

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