



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Delta Company, 2nd BATTALION, 149th AVIATION
TASK FORCE 34
JOINT BASE BALAD, IRAQ 09391

November 20, 2008

Commander, VFW Post 8561 and
President, Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 8561
3221 Howell Street
Arlington, Texas 76010

Dear Mr. Talley and Ms. Levy:

I am the company commander for D Company, 2-149th Aviation and we have been the recipients of some of VFW 8561s special generosity. Please accept my most personal regards and appreciation for all the support the Veteran's of Foreign Wars Post 8561 members have provided to the Soldiers of my unit.

We started receiving care packages in October 2008 from VFW Post 8561 after our arrival in Iraq. This occurred during a time in which we were facing great adversity and tragedy at the loss of several of our military family in a CH-47 accident. The Women's Auxiliary did a wonderful job and helped boost morale in our company by putting these items together for my Soldiers. The care and enthusiasm that went into each and every package was evident in the smiles on the faces of the Soldiers as the items were distributed and opened. The Soldiers look at this like an early Christmas and each and every one of them appreciate the patriotism and generosity of the members from VFW Post 8561. I have enclosed a couple of pictures of my Soldiers with your items.

Being a Life Member myself and in particular a member of VFW Post 8561, I was very proud to find out the care packages were coming from my very own post. Being a member of the VFW carries with it special pride and distinction to which I am privileged to have membership. By the VFW Post 8561 showing its pride and support in its nations Soldiers, I truly believe that we may have earned a few more future members in the process.

In closing, I wish you all the very best and we look forward thanking you in person. Please convey our gratitude to all the members of VFW Post 8561 and know that your thoughts of us mean a great deal to the average Soldier. Just knowing we have support and backing from our brothers and sisters back home is a blessing in itself.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Masias", is written above the typed name.

Matthew Masias
Major, United States Army
Commanding