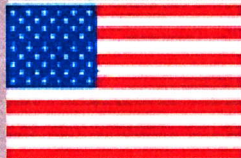




**Comanche Troop
4th Squadron 10th U.S. Cavalry
Task Force Fighting Eagles
3rd BCT, 4th ID(M)
JSS Umm Saah**



*Presents this Certificate of
Appreciation to*



Striper Surf Club

In thanks for your support to the troopers stationed at JSS Umm Sa'ah on the frontiers of Iraq. Your letters & packages remind all of Team Comanche of the many people back home who continue to remember their efforts here as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn

Christopher J. Ustler
CPT, AR
Troop Executive Officer

Carlo M. Williams
1SG
Troop First Sergeant



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 3RD BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM
4TH INFANTRY DIVISION (MECHANIZED)
COB ADDER, IRAQ APO AE 09331



CPT Chris Ustler
HHT, 3BCT, 4ID (M)
COB Adder
APO, AE 09331

04 August 2010

Striper Surf Club
c/o Rick Zappala
2128 Dogwood Ln
Westbury, NY 11590

Dear Striper Surf Club,

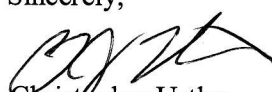
I hope this note doesn't take too long to get back to you, I have been moving around quite a bit and my previous base here didn't have the most frequent mail services. Thank you very much for your generous packages to all the guys out at JSS Umm Saah! (JSS stands for Joint Security Station) I was a bit taken back when I was told I had a bunch of large packages waiting for me at the command post while I was out at another JSS to pick someone up. Everything you sent was very appreciated by my troopers and didn't take long at all to be spread around the camp. Our JSS is one of the few remaining along the border with Iran and due to our small size and remoteness we don't have a Post Exchange (PX) to resupply toiletries or pick up some good snacks. My favorite was the coffee which went straight to the coffee pots in my CP since the usual Army stuff had gotten a bit bland, the 1SG here was especially happy to see chock full o'nuts. I was able to put everything in our recreation room and all of the Cavalry troopers, mortar-men, and personnel stationed at the JSS were able to have their pick. I even saw issues of your magazine floating around in the living areas and at the mess hall tent.

JSS Umm Saah is a small camp in southeastern Iraq on the border with Iran. Unlike the usual image one thinks of over here, we actually are located on the Umm Nijaj Lake and in the heart of the Hwaza marsh region. The area is ripe with canals, water buffalo, green vegetation, and the major local industry – fishing! We are part of a Cavalry Troop split between two camps, my Commander is at the other and I am in charge of Umm Saah with the First Sergeant. We work with the Iraqi Department of Border Enforcement and an Iraqi Army Battalion patrolling along the Iranian border. We have an Iraqi Command Post here with us with members from both groups as well – supporting a total of about ninety-eight people here.

Everyone wanted me to pass along their thanks for your support and thoughts while we are out here. For many of my men this is their 3rd or 4th deployment and for some it is their first time going overseas – in all cases however knowing that the folks back home still think and care about them is refreshing. My Commander - CPT Reyes, First Sergeant Williams, and I appreciate everything you did and offer you our heartfelt thanks for helping to take care of our soldiers. If it doesn't get too banged up in the mail, I hope you can post the enclosed certificate from us so all your guests and members know of the great support you have been giving to the Troops overseas!

Sincerely,

Thanks!


Christopher Ustler
CPT, USA