

12 APR 2011

DEAR MR. HIRSCH,

I WANTED TO TAKE THE TIME TO SAY THANK YOU TO OPERATION SHOEBOX. IT IS ALWAYS APPRECIATED AMONGST THE MARINES HERE TO KNOW THAT AMERICANS BACK HOME HAVE NOT FORGOTTEN ABOUT THEM AND CONTINUE TO PROVIDE AND CONVEY THEIR SUPPORT IN ANY WAY POSSIBLE.

YOUR ORGANIZATION IS WELL KNOWN AND WELL RESPECTED AMONGST THE MARINES IN HELMARD PROVINCE. YOUR EFFORTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THOSE HERE WHO CAN, OR HAVE TO, FIND THE ~~OCCASIONAL~~ OCCASIONAL ESCAPE IN THE SMALLEST OF LUXURIES: JUCKERS, BRAND NAME BARS OF SOAP, ETC.

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR ALL THAT YOU DO FOR THE MARINES AND THE REST OF THE ARMED SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN.

SEMPER PARATUS.



MAJ MARC E. BLANKENBICKER
USMC