

September 28, 2005

Nevada Benefits Foundation
Attn: Phil Randazzo
9505 Hillwood Dr. Ste. 100
Las Vegas, NV 89132

Mr. Randazzo,

I am writing on behalf of 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines, H&S Company Communication Platoon stationed out of Camp LeJeune, NC currently deployed to al Qaim, Iraq. My husband, 2nd Lt. Eric Muckin, and his troops deployed in late August and will be in Iraq for approximately 7 months. As you can imagine, this is a difficult time for both the Marines and for those left behind.

A group of third graders from Mills River, NC have adopted my husband's platoon. The children will be sending letters, care packages, pictures, etc. from home throughout their deployment. This contact will certainly be a light in a sometimes dark time in Iraq.

My husband felt sending those children each a "Defending Freedom" bracelet would be a great way to introduce them and help bridge the gap between the thousands of miles. I contacted Ms. Nikki Vallone at the "Defending Freedom" website to inquire about the "Defending Freedom" bracelets found there. When I inquired about purchasing the bracelets from Ms. Vallone, she graciously donated enough for each child in the third grade class. I am forwarding these bracelets along with pictures of my husband's platoon as they deployed from North Carolina to those children.

On behalf of the entire platoon, I would like to say thank you for the generosity bestowed upon these Marines during this difficult time. Both the children and the troops will now benefit from this gift. The generosity and help of Ms. Vallone and all of those involved is greatly appreciated.

God Bless,

Amy Muckin
Wife, 3/6 Comm. Platoon
Camp LeJeune, NC