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United States Marine Corps
Lima Company
Task Force 3D Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment
Fallujah, Iraq

1 Aug 08

From: Captain Jeremy D. Anzevino, Commanding Officer, Lima Company TF 3/6
To: Jonathan Gates, ThankYouSoldier.com

Subj: Letter of Appreciation

1. Every day Americans wake up to a free country allowing us to get up when we want to, work whatever job we care to, and walk down the street knowing that God gave us the free will to choose our path without interference from humanity. The country we're currently fighting in did not have that opportunity prior to our arrival. The finest men and women from our beloved country stood up, raised their hands, and shipped off in pursuit of providing this dream to a culture that was oppressed for years and deprived the smallest of freedoms. U.S. Marines, for centuries have dedicated their lives to standing in harms way only to receive the satisfaction of ridding the world of terror and delivering freedom to whoever needs it. Along my relatively short path in the Marine Corps I have come across the finest Americans that our country has produced and I stand today a better man, father, and American because of the dedication to the Red, White, and Blue that has been portrayed in front of my own eyes in times of extreme adversity by these men.
2. On June 25th of this year, one of the outposts my infantry company mans and fights out of in Fallujah, Iraq, was subject to an unfortunate electrical fire that resulted in the almost-complete destruction of the post. My men lost almost everything to include their personal belongings and weapon. Some things were saved but 99% was lost. I didn't feel the tragedy of this incident until I witnessed some of them crawling and digging through the still-smoldering ashes looking for a shred of family pictures and/or other sentimental valued items they lost. That same night, I sent a message to my wife to send me some necessary items that we may need and she, in turn passed it to the family, etc. Soon, many Americans such as yourself rose up and showed your true colors and made sacrifices to help my men. Over the next few weeks, and still today, we began receiving tremendous support from the States from a range of people from those who could only send a pillow case, to large military support groups sending laptops and iPods. No matter what the item received here, my Marines and I have a renewed faith in our fellow Americans and you've reinforced the reason why we fight for Old Glory. So to you I give my deepest thanks for your efforts and sending items to assist the Marines of Lima Company 3/6.
3. We will never forget your support during our time of need and will never take for granted our privilege to fight for Americans like you. God Bless you and Semper Fidelis.

J. D. Anzevino