



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 506TH INFANTRY REGIMENT
COMBINED TASK FORCE CURRAHEE
FOB SALERNO, AFGHANISTAN
APO AE 09314



November 27, 2008

Commander
506th Infantry Regiment
4th Brigade Combat Team (Currahee)
101st Airborne Division (Air Assault)

Currahee Family,

Happy Thanksgiving! We all wish we could spend this special holiday with our loved ones and our hearts will be with you as we do our best to honor and celebrate this wonderful American tradition here in Afghanistan.

I've already spoken to many of our Currahees about Thanksgiving and they are thankful for many blessings but what is foremost on their mind is – Family – and rightly so. We are all very thankful for the sacrifices our families make while we are deployed doing what we volunteered to do. It is traditionally a time for family gatherings and we will miss that, and fully appreciate that it is yet another sacrifice you will endure.

We are also thankful for the overwhelming support we receive from the American people, clearly evident when our Currahees return on R&R leave and pass through the airports. We also agree that we are thankful to have the blessing to be Americans and live in a country with so many freedoms that we treasure and are ready to defend. Finally, we are thankful for the Currahee teammates that surround us and who make our mission doable and bearable.

Thank you for all that you do – we will be forever grateful for your love and support. It has allowed our Currahees to focus on this noble mission and get the job done right. So you know, on either the day before or on Thanksgiving Day, another Military tradition will prevail - turkey dinners with all the trimmings will have been delivered to all of our Currahees so they can enjoy a touch of back home.

While this is a joyful time, I also ask you to take the time to pause, reflect, and pray for our families who have lost loved ones in our fight here, as well as for our wounded and their families. Their sacrifice will continue long after our redeployment from Afghanistan next year.

Again, thank you for your love and support to our Currahees and for your continued sacrifice. I hope each of you has a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends, and I look forward to seeing you after our redeployment in 2009!

CURRAHEE, STANDS ALONE!

Sincerely,

John "Pete" Johnson
Colonel, US Army
Commanding