

JOINT TASK FORCE PALADIN
COUNTER-IED TEAM
ORGUN-E-KALAN
PAKTIKA PROVINCE, AFGHANISTAN
APO AE 09354

20 December 2007

Joe De Vita
Knights of Columbus 13678
St. Elizabeth RC Church
700 Wyckoff Avenue
Wyckoff, NJ 07481

Sir,

I am writing to thank you and Christy & Tony de Nicola for the care package you have sent to JTF Paladin. The box contained 24 pounds of Dunkin Donuts ground coffee, and we appreciate it very much.

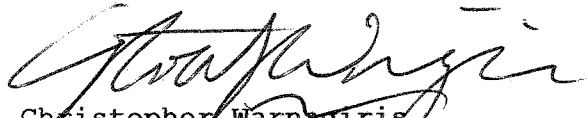
We are in a remote outpost of Eastern Afghanistan, and we have been nagging our higher headquarters to please send us some coffee. It looks like the message went through, and you and the de Nicolas came through for us. Please pass along our gratitude to them for us. We will be sure to share it with our fellow units here.

It is winter now, and the mountain passes will surely become blocked by snow shortly, so the package arrived just in time. Even today we received two inches of snow. We certainly have enough coffee now to stay awake on the long nights conducting our missions, at least enough to last the winter...

We are currently serving as a special team devoted to attacking IEDs and the terrorists who emplace them, and things are going very well. We are working hard to defeat the enemies of America, and with support like that from the Knights of Columbus and the de Nicolas, I am sure we will. We all asked to be here, and we are all proud to fight the war. I am enclosing a photo of our team from Thanksgiving.

So on behalf of my team and Colonel Henry, best wishes, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year.

Yours,



Christopher Warnagiris
Captain, United States Marine Corps
Team Leader, Orgun-E Counter-IED Team