

To the Young Men and Women of the Sunrise Drive Elementary School,

I CAN'T THANK EVERYONE ENOUGH FOR THE CARE PACKAGES THAT YOU SENT. I CAN TELL HOW MUCH EFFORT AND LOVE WAS PUT INTO THEM AND WE TRULY APPRECIATE IT. THE PACKAGE GAVE US A TASTE OF HOME DURING THIS TIME AWAY FROM OUR FAMILIES OVER THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY. ALL THE CANDY AND ITEMS THAT WERE IN THE PACKAGES WENT TO GREAT USE. I PERSONALLY HAVE READ ALL OF YOUR LETTERS AS DID MANY OF MY GUYS. I'M GOING TO TRY TO ANSWER AS MANY QUESTIONS AS I CAN.

-I GOT A LOT OF QUESTIONS ON WHY I'M IN THE NAVY? DO I LIKE IT? AND WHAT DO WE DO?

I LOVE BEING IN THE MILITARY. I'VE BEEN IN THE NAVY FOR 10 YEARS. THE FIRST 2 YEARS I SPENT IN SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA TRAINING TO BECOME A SEAL. THE REST OF THE TIME I HAVE BEEN STATIONED IN VIRGINIA.

WHEN WE AREN'T DEPLOYED, WE TRAVEL ALL OVER THE COUNTRY AND SOMETIMES OVERSEAS TO TRAIN. SEAL STANDS FOR SEA, AIR AND LAND WHICH COVERS ALL FACETS WITHIN OUR JOB. WE SPEND A LOT OF TIME SKY DIVING, DIVING (UNDERWATER) AND CONDUCTING A LOT OF WEAPONS AND SPECIALTY TRAINING. I STARTED HAVING AN INTEREST IN THE SEALS AT A PRETTY YOUNG AGE. I WAS ALWAYS PATRIOTIC AND APPRECIATED WHAT OUR ANCESTORS HAVE DONE TO PROVIDE US THE FREEDOM WE HAVE TODAY. I WANTED TO HAVE A DIRECT IMPACT ON PROTECTING OUR COUNTRY AND BE A PART OF THE BEST UNIT IN THE US MILITARY.

-WHAT SPORTS DID I PLAY?

I PLAYED BASEBALL AND SOCCER UP THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL. IN COLLEGE I PLAYED BASEBALL AND RUGBY.

-WHAT WAS MY FAVORITE SUBJECT IN SCHOOL?

HISTORY.

-IS IT HARD TO BE FAR AWAY FROM HOME?

IT'S ALWAYS TOUGH TO BE AWAY FROM FAMILY NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES YOU HAVE BEEN GONE. WE ARE GONE ABOUT

70% OF THE YEAR AND SOME OF MY GUYS HAVE BEEN DOING THIS FOR 15-20+ YEARS. I'M PRETTY SURE THAT EVERYONE AGREES THAT THE MOMS AT HOME HAVE IT MUCH HARDER THAN WE DO. BEING AT HOME WHILE WORKING, TAKING CARE OF THE CHILDREN AND ALL THE OTHER CHORES IS A PRETTY BIG TASK. CHASING BAD PEOPLE AROUND AFGHANISTAN IS THE EASY PART.

-WHAT SPORT TEAMS DO U LIKE?
NY YANKEES AND NY GIANTS

-WHAT IS IT LIKE HERE?
IF AFGHANISTAN WASN'T DANGEROUS IT WOULD BE A GREAT SKI RESORT. THERE ARE A LOT OF MOUNTAINS. WE ARE GETTING SNOW ON SOME OF THE MOUNTAINS NOW AND IT'S GETTING COLDER.

-DO WE MISS OUR FAMILIES WHEN WE ARE AWAY?
OF COURSE! MOST OF THE GUYS ARE MARRIED WITH CHILDREN, SOME AROUND YOUR AGE AND ANY TIME SPENT AWAY FROM THEM IS DIFFICULT.

-DO WE HAVE ANY PETS HERE WITH US?
WE HAVE THREE DOGS. THEY HAVE SAVED COUNTLESS LIVES ON THE BATTLE FIELD AND TRULY ARE OUR 'BEST FRIENDS.'

-DID WE HAVE THANKSGIVING DINNER?
THEY DID COOK THANKSGIVING DINNER FOR US. WE HAD TURKEY, ROAST BEEF AS WELL AS STUFFING AND DESERT. I'M PRETTY SURE UNLESS YOUR MOM ACCIDENTALLY BURNT THE TURKEY THAT IT WASN'T AS GOOD AS WHAT YOU HAD. THEY MADE A BIG EFFORT TO GIVE US A SPECIAL MEAL AND IT TASTED PRETTY GOOD. NO COMPLAINTS HERE.

I'M IMPRESSED ON HOW DRIVEN YOU ALL ARE. CONTINUE TO STUDY HARD AND LISTEN TO YOUR TEACHERS. YOU ARE ALL THE FUTURE OF AMERICA!

ADAM