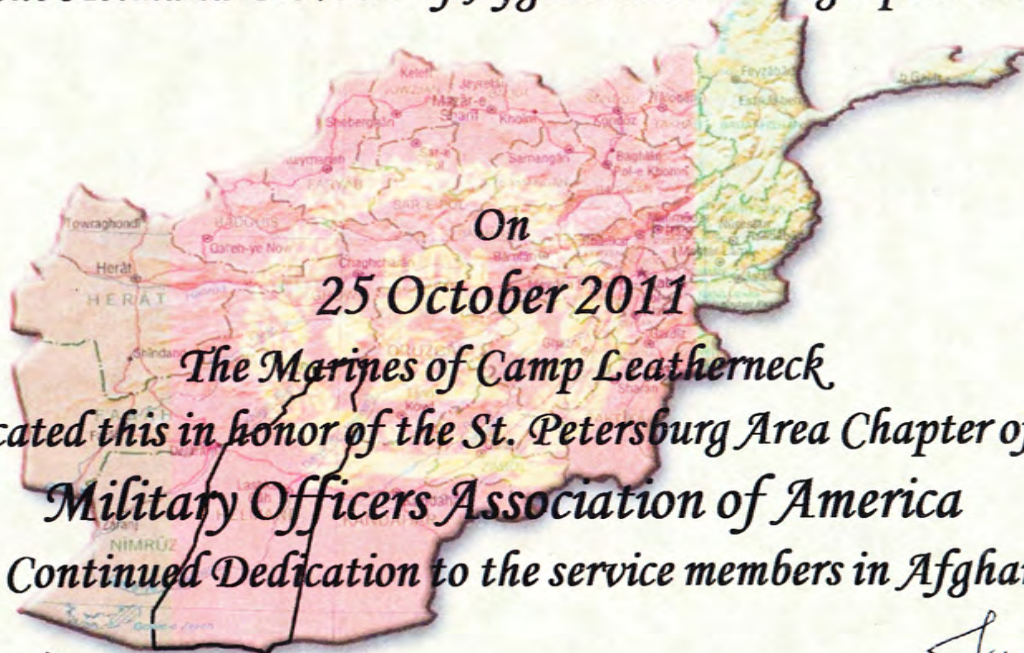


UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

This certifies that the accompanying American Flag was flown over the headquarters of Regional Command (Southwest) and II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), Camp Leatherneck in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom.



*On
25 October 2011
The Marines of Camp Leatherneck
Dedicated this in honor of the St. Petersburg Area Chapter of the
Military Officers Association of America
For its Continued Dedication to the service members in Afghanistan*

Michael F. Jones
MICHAEL F. JONES
Sergeant Major
RC (SW)/II MEF (Fwd)

John A. Toolan
JOHN A. TOOLAN
Major General
RC (SW)/II MEF (Fwd)
Commanding General

26 October 2011

President
St. Petersburg Area Chapter
Military Officers Association of America
P.O. Box 7054
St. Petersburg, FL 33734

Major Lillich:

I am writing to thank you, Ms. Anita Harrow, and the St. Petersburg Area Chapter of the Military Officers of America Association for the care packages. I am not sure how many total packages Help Our Troops (HOT) has sent me by the time you receive this, but I wanted to let you know how the five I received so far have been utilized.

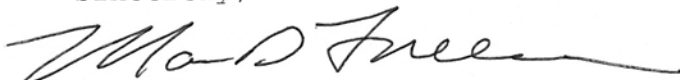
Camp Leatherneck is home to II MEF Forward, the lead element of Regional Command Southwest, Afghanistan. Along with on-going combat missions, the camp supports Receiving, Staging, and Onward Integration (RSOI) of service members deploying/re-deploying throughout Helmand and Nimruz Provinces. Camp Leatherneck allows service members to rest and prepare for combat or the trip return home.

A retired Marine and I took the first few packages to the United Services Organization (USO) on the evening we received them. The next day, I checked the USO to see how the packages fared; I couldn't find any remains. 1stBn/5th Marine Regiment was aboard at the time and had seen a significant amount of combat. I suspect they were the recipients of the much of the geedunk and, based on their recent field work, thoroughly happy to use the hygiene gear. The socks were an especially nice touch.

We delivered the last package to the Morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR) center on 16 October. Similar to the USO, Marines use the facility to relax and decompress. The box of packaged hygiene kits will certainly be appreciated, particularly since the MWR is in between the weight and the cardio gyms.

Please pass on my personal regards and this flag as a token of the Marines' appreciation to the MOAA Chapter. It is always wonderful to see an organization such as yours spending so much time, money, and effort to ensure the troops know they are supported.

Sincerely,



Marc Freese
LtCol, USMCR
Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan