



Operation Santa

At the end of August, 2004, First Battalion, Seventh Marines left to return to Iraq. For many of these Marines, this will be the first Thanksgiving and Christmas they will be away from home and family. And it is an unfortunate fact that some of these young men and women will not receive mail and packages from friends and family members. The Marine Corps Moms hope to make a difference for our Marines. Here's our plan.

Operation Santa will provide each platoon in 1/7 with Christmas-in-a-Box. Each box will contain the following:

- A filled Christmas stocking for each Marine in the platoon.
- A small fold-up Christmas tree with decorations.
- A Christmas CD
- Christmas Cards for each Marine
- Treats (cookies, candy, snacks)
- Gifts that the platoon can share (board games, decks of cards, DVDs)

There are 20 platoons in this battalion and each platoon has 30-40 Marines. We need 20 church groups, organizations, clubs, employer groups, etc. to adopt a platoon and fill their box. We also need volunteers to sew the Christmas stockings and donations to help with postage and filling boxes. All boxes need to be mailed by the first week in November, so please sign up now.

If you can help make the Christmas season a bit merrier for our Marines in Iraq, please contact one of us:

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Watch our website, www.marinecorpsmoms.com, for updates on this project.