

----- Original Message -----

From: [Charles Watkins](#)

Sent: Monday, July 26, 2010 8:48 PM

Subject: Fw: Items needed

I received this message from our Red Cross Station Manager at Fort Carson who has been forward deployed to Afghanistan for six (6) months. She is requesting any help that any of us can provide to help the soldiers in Afghanistan. Paragraph 3 outlines the things the soldiers need. Help spread the word and thanks for anything you can do to help out.

Charley Watkins
Chief of Staff
Department of Colorado, VFW

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: "HarlandtS@usa.redcross.org" <HarlandtS@usa.redcross.org>

Sent: Sun, July 25, 2010 11:16:21 PM

Subject: Items needed

Good morning to you! It's another hot one today, but I will admit to a strange kind of happiness that the weather is nowhere near the hell that was Kuwait.

One of our missions here, beyond the constant Red Cross messages, is to provide what we can in support to our troops out in the field. We have units in such forward and remote locations, that that they are able to shower only once or twice a month ... and then only after walking several miles back to the nearest compound.

These soldiers and Marines have asked for some specific items - things that are in very short supply: deodorant, good disposable razors, shave creams, small containers of foot powder, summer weight boot socks, chapsticks, wet wipes, Slim Jims and peanut M&Ms (lol). By the way HELMET LINERS fly out of here faster than our Starbucks coffee!

Due to security, I cannot share the unit addresses, but whatever we get in the mail, I turn right around and MPS (military postal service) to the forward locations.

Our own supplies here are dwindling, due to the sheer numbers of troops coming through our area for the 'surge', on their way out to various OPs, where they must build and maintain their own infrastructures. Many of these troops come through our Red Cross station, and we always offer them good fresh coffee, whatever snacks we have received in the mail, fresh baked bread (Krusteaz!), and anything else we can think of. One thing we rarely ever find is coffee creamer! I can't seem to convince the chow hall here to give us this item for our troops - but we are experiencing general food shortages due to difficulties in conveying in the food!!

If I could be so bold as to ask you to please pass the word to your friends and colleagues about our needs here ... I would be very, very grateful. We try very hard to make our station a small sanctuary for those troops heading out, and try even harder to supply them once they get out there.

I hope all is well with you!
My best always,
Susanne

Address:
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