

Subject: Bear Note #2

Sleepy Bears

Are we there yet – yes! All of the Bears have safely arrived in the CENTCOM area. Our flight crews were extraordinary. They decorated the aircraft with patriotic pictures from elementary school children and kept your “Bears” well fed. These flights will long be remembered by our soldiers and the crews that volunteered to bring them to the desert.

Upon arrival, our soldiers were greeted by a long bus ride to a remote desert location. There is sand and a few tents – and that’s about all! Luxuries for us are two hot meals each day, porta-potties, and rarely a warm shower. We don’t have access to email or phones so you should not worry if you haven’t heard from your bear. On the other hand, we’ve been writing lots of letters. Hopefully you’ll receive one in the days (and perhaps weeks) ahead. For those wishing to write, here’s our current address: Camp Victory, Your Soldier’s Rank and Name, V Corps, 21st Combat Support Hospital (please spell it out), HHD, A Co, or B Co, APO, AE 09302-1260.

Why Sleepy Bears? It took several days for us to get over our jet lag. The Bears are tired and napping in the afternoon, but wide awake in the middle of the night. What’s next? We will receive our equipment and move it from the port to a staging area in preparation for future operations. Hopefully we’ll have a PX, phones, and email soon. In the meantime, I’ll try to keep you up-to-date with these notes.

Most important, we want you to know that we’re safe and setting the standard. Thanks for your support.

Fear Not!