

May 21, 2004

Dear Friend:

During a time when we all remember those brave men and women in uniform who have made the ultimate sacrifice for their country, I write to commend you for your sacrifice during this difficult time while your loved one is away.

During my travels to Iraq, I have seen the awe-inspiring work our soldiers are doing in that country. These soldiers are truly the next "Greatest Generation," building schools where there once were killing fields, building hospitals where there were once rape rooms, and bringing hope and dignity to 25 million people.

As a free and democratic Iraq comes closer to being a reality, the enemies of freedom in that nation are lashing out in a desperate attempt to hold onto power. The weeks ahead will be trying times for our brave men and women serving in Iraq and their families, but their bravery will allow for a free Iraq that will serve as a catalyst to bring democracy to one of the last parts of the world where it has been unwelcome. Free nations are peaceful nations and America seeks peace.

I have met many of the soldiers and families of the 1462nd Transportation Company from Howell and I am honored to know each of you. The mission your loved one is performing in Iraq of moving critical supplies and ammunition is vital to our success there. I am confident that each of the soldiers of the 1462nd will make their families, our community and our country proud by the exemplary service they will perform in Iraq. Their sacrifice makes America and our future generations safer from terrorists who wish to destroy our way of life.

If there is ever anything my office can do to assist you in any way, please do not hesitate to contact Stuart Pigler in my Lansing office at 877-333-MIKE. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you during this trying time.

Sincerely,

Mike Rogers
Member of Congress

MR/ajk