



U.S. Department of Defense Casualty Statistics

Operation New Dawn (9/1/2010 thru 8/19/11)

Deaths	57
Wounded in Action	11,864

Operation Enduring Freedom (as of 8/19/11)

Deaths	1,633
Wounded in Action	13,316



Freedom of Speech

Freedom from Fear



Freedom from Want

Freedom of Worship

OQC Online is a quarterly publication of Operation: Quiet Comfort designed for our online community. Publication dates are June, Sept., Dec. and March. The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the month preceding publication. To submit articles for consideration, please contact Janis Schafnitz-Hogg, Board President, jans-h@operationquietcomfort.com

www.operationquietcomfort.com

TOUCHING HEARTS

By Jan Hogg, Board President, McCormick, SC

Can you hear the Christmas music, see all the beautiful decorations and twinkling lights? Can you smell the cookies baking and that turkey roasting for the big family dinner? You will be doing all that and more in less than three months. Our heroes will be missing all of that and most of all they will be away from their family and friends. I'm pretty sure that is the hardest part of their deployment: missing their family and knowing the family waiting at home are having a hard time as well.



Last year we filled Christmas stockings with phone cards, healthy snacks, socks, and holiday candy. Like they say, if something isn't broken, don't try to fix it! We hope to send 500 of the same this year, along with holiday cards in every stocking. We can do this with your help. Sponsorship for each stocking is \$10, which includes the shipping.

This will not replace the family Christmas, but it will let them know that a grateful nation cares and they have not been forgotten.

If you do the math, it means we need to raise \$5,000 to make this happen. Won't you please help by making a donation and then take it a step further. Make a copy of the flier you see in this newsletter (copy will be in files under Christmas 2011) and post at work, place of worship or any public place that will allow you to post. Share with family,



friends and neighbors. If you are doing a block signing, please have fliers available. If every registered member was responsible for five sponsorships, we would have this covered in no time.

If you use PayPal or Google to make payments, please indicate "holiday."

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Meet & Greet 2011.....	2	Fill This Stocking.....	4
From the Front.....	3	Packing in Plymouth, IN.....	5

Operation: Quiet Comfort Meet & Greet 2011 *by Jan Houin, Plymouth, IN*



Saturday, August 13th, was a beautiful day here in northern Indiana in spite of the weather man's predictions of rain and stormy weather. Sometimes it's good for the weather service to be wrong! Thirty people gathered at our home office throughout the day lending a hand to pack 100 Go Bags from start to finish, taking inventory of leftover supplies, making cards, and learning from each other ways to promote Operation: Quiet Comfort.

Sharon and Leon and their son Harley arrived in their motor home from Minnesota. Marie and Terry came from Peoria, IL. Jan Hogg and her super supportive husband, Rick, were here from McCormick, SC. Other volunteers from our local community stopped by. Some are regular volunteers and others heard about OQC on the local radio station or read something about it in the local newspaper and came to see just what we do. Jamie from Virginia couldn't attend but wanted her state to be represented so she sent some beautiful gifts we were able to give out to some of our guests.

A special thanks to my sister, Peggy, who not only was here for the Meet & Greet but really is my "right hand" for all of our packing events. And of course thanks to my super supportive husband Kenny, who not only builds boxes, closes boxes, lifts boxes, transports boxes to the post office, does the computer work to update fliers, and most importantly keeps me calm when it all seems overwhelming.

It is always exciting for me to be able to share what I've learned about OQC and explain "how and why" we do things. I also learn from others. Ginny is our newest volunteer to sew Four Freedom Gratitude Quilts. It was great to see Marie (who has made over 50 so far!) step in and lend tips from her experience. That's something I could not do because I don't sew. Sharon had some great examples of her display for block signings.

Those are examples of how everyone working together can make a big difference. It takes each person adding their time and talents to keep this organization moving forward to support our wounded warriors and the medical staff that care for them.

The day wasn't all work. We took a break in the afternoon and as we munched on Dilly Bars we each shared a little about ourselves and how we got involved in OQC. The best part was sharing ideas and enthusiasm with each other for how to promote OQC in our own circles of influence.

Our local community is very supportive. Pizza Hut donated 10 large pizzas for lunch and Dairy Queen donated hot dogs, buns and Dilly Bars for the evening. The Market Basket is a little store nearby that donated chips and Kool-aid. Our local Cullingan dealer gave us two cases of bottled water to keep our workers hydrated. Also Matt and Bobbie Zahm from IN STITCH'Z donated two very nice signs to guide volunteers to our "in the middle of no-where" residence.

It was great to have Kathy, manager of WTCA radio in Plymouth, IN, stop in and lend a hand. We have been on the local radio multiple times, but this was Kathy's first "hands on" experience with OQC. Now when we talk about "building boxes" and "packing Go-Bags" Kathy will be able to share her experience. It really is true that people will support that which they help to create. My point of sharing these donations is to thank those who gave, but also to show that many people will step up if they are simply asked.

We find that most people are willing to support Operation: Quiet Comfort when they understand who we are and what we do. Explain our mission: Operation: Quiet Comfort was established in July 2004 to honor and comfort our U.S. Armed Forces men and women who have been injured while serving in harm's way and the medical staff that care for them. KEEP TALKING and sharing the opportunity with everyone you know to show our military men and women that a grateful nation truly cares!



★ ★ FROM THE FRONT ★ ★

Operation Quiet Comfort,

Thank you for the notebook and envelopes Pens/Pencils. I am Lt. J. _____ and I am a trauma nurse at _____ Hospital in Afghanistan. I make sure that after our men and women are cared for, I provide them with donated gifts. A young man with ___ Marine Battalion ___ Division, whom is up in the _____ asked for writing material for his friends. I located your donation and delivered it to him before returning for duty. Thank you for your support.

LT. J. _____
Rochester, MI!!

★★★★★★★★★★

My name is TSgt Chrishana _____, I am the Volunteer and Donations coordinator at the _____ CASF in _____, Afghanistan. We have received several of your bags and are most appreciative. We are the first Level 1 Trauma facility that a wounded Soldier, Sailor, Marine or Airman will see after the battlefield. Our jobs include recovering the wounded from the inbound vehicle, caring for and stabilizing them and getting them to the next facility for definitive care, which is often Germany then Virginia. Often times the bags you created are all that they have when they get here. I want to take the time to thank your organization once again for taking time out of your busy schedule to think about our wounded warriors. Have a happy and blessed day!

V/r
TSgt Chrishana _____

★★★★★★★★★★

"Dear Operation Quiet Comfort

My name is SGT. _____, I am in Afghanistan at the moment. I was in MTV Rolled over. I was EVAC out to the hospital where I got a bag from you guys and I wanted to thank you for everything you have done. I wish there was more for me to say but I am lost for words, so once again thank you."

SGT _____

★★★★★★★★★★

Dear Ma'am or Sir,

"Thank you so much for your generous gift packages. We are very limited here in Afghanistan on things we can get, and thus truly appreciate your generosity and thoughtfulness."

"It is very comforting for us to know people back home think of us and support us. We feel so lucky and privileged to be American and serve the greatest country and greatest people in the world. This all means so much to us."

"Thank you again for the great supplies,"

Anne H. _____, Lt.Col. USAF, BSC

★★★★★★★★★★

Operation Quiet Comfort,

Thank you so much for the recent care pagage of saline wipes. These have been a great help. It is always a great morale boost to receive a package

from strangers. Thank you so much for all your support!

Sincerely,
Cpt. Theresa _____

★★★★★★★★★★

"Dear members of Operation Quiet Comfort,"

"Allow me to express my sincere gratitude for all your endeavors towards forces the world over!"

"Am pleased to send this little token of appreciation for the gifts I received from your group, As a guard guarding the forces at _____ Air Base, am really motivated and may God bless you more as you reach other hearts else where!"

"Yours Sincerely,"
Christian _____

★★★★★★★★★★

"Thank you so much for the care package filled with snacks, drink mix, & coffee! It is greatly appreciated by all of us at the FRC." (Freedom Restoration Center)

Note:

This is part of a restoration program which provides support to service members providing an environment which allows soldiers to rest and reset for 3-5 days.

★★★★★★★★★★



Fill this stocking and a soldier's heart

FOR ONLY
\$10



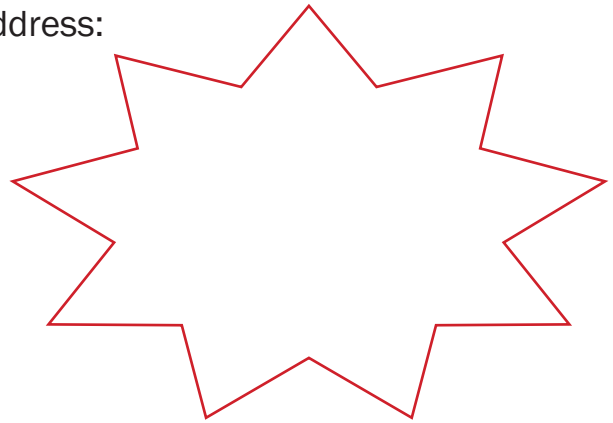
Each \$10 sponsorship fills a stocking with:

- An individually wrapped beef stick or beef jerky
- An Individually wrapped granola bar or protein bar
- 1 - pair of white socks
- A SPAWAR calling card
- A letter or card specially written from an OQC member for the holidays

Donations can be made via Pay Pal (admin@operationquietcomfort.com) or by check mailed to the following address:

Please Note: Holiday Shipment

Operation: Quiet Comfort
307 Palmer Lane
McCormick SC 29835



Operation: Quiet Comfort is a 501(c)(3), nonprofit, charitable organization registered in the state of Michigan. We graciously accept financial contributions that will help us continue this work. We need your help during this time of war. Donations are an essential part of how our work is accomplished at home and abroad. Your gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Please consult your tax advisor with questions.

www.operationquietcomfort.com



Shipped with Love June-July, 2011



Category: CLOTHING & FOOTWEAR

82 Underclothing sets + jersey shorts

37 Flip Flops

Category: BEDDING & LINENS

65 small Quilts

75 Travel Pillows

150 Pillow Cases

Category: FOOD & EQUIPMENT

328 oz. *Good * Coffee

222 Individual servings Tea

7881 Individual servings Drink Mix

14 tubs Sugar & Creamer

1 Bread Machine

8 Spreads

173 Bread Mix

300 Microwave Meals

22 pkg. Tuna

132 Individual servings Healthy Snacks

346 Freezer Pops

78 Grab-n-Go Cups

Category: GROOMING & HYGIENE

118 Go Bags

1120 pkg. Saline Wipes

Category: SPECIAL PROJECTS:

350 Cool Ties

160 Pocket Flags

Category: SPECIAL REQUEST

1 Rice Cooker

1 Blender

1 Toaster

1 Coffee Grinder

Over 2000 CARDS

Bless all of you who have stepped up to be counted and who are working so hard ... sacrificing so much ... to ensure our wounded warriors know we were there for them "just in case."



Notice:

In compliance with IRS regulations, receipts are sent for all donations of \$250.00 or more, or for any lesser amount upon request.

Download this newsletter from our website. Go to

www.operationquietcomfort.com

<<http://www.operationquietcomfort.com/>>

and click on the "Newsletters" button!

REMINDER...

OQC is accepting financial donations as we "friend-raise" and "fund-raise" to get existing supplies to the troops.

Send donations to:

Operation: Quiet Comfort

C/O Jan Hogg

307 Palmer Lane

McCormick, SC 29835



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katieb@operationquietcomfort.com



Established in July 2004 for the purpose of honoring and comforting members of the U.S. Armed Forces injured while in harm's way, and providing support to those who care for them.

About Our Work

We're creating care packages for U.S. Military men and women receiving care at medical facilities abroad. Often our injured men and women arrive for medical care without their belongings and it can take weeks before those belongings catch up with them—and sometimes they don't arrive at all. Even when injured our troops need items like hygiene and grooming products, clothing, entertainment and support from the home front.

It is the mission of this effort to help assure those individuals are honored for their sacrifice and comforted by creating "GO BAGS," or transition kits, that include comfort items like our "Four Freedoms Gratitude Quilt," personal care items and products that entertain and provide "down time" for their spiritual, emotional and physical healing.

We rely on the expertise of Pastoral Care Services and others knowledgeable about what items are most appropriate for their particular unit or facility. As a result, the program focus will change to meet the needs of those we sponsor. The Go Bags and Four Freedoms Gratitude Quilts are just part of our work ... there are opportunities for everyone to show their thanks and appreciation.

Everyone brings different gifts to the table ... we invite you to share yours!

In-Kind Donations (including quilts, knit items and cool ties)

Operation: Quiet Comfort

c/o The Houins

17671 13th Rd.

Plymouth, IN 46563

www.operationquietcomfort.com

September 2011

Founder Lori Pate, **La Salle, MI**
lpate@operationquietcomfort.com

Volunteer Project Coordinators

PROJECT: OQC Online Newsletter
Coordinator: Janis Schafnitz-Hogg
jans-h@operationquietcomfort.com

PROJECT: Four Freedoms Gratitude Quilt Kits
(must become an approved quilter)
quilts@operationquietcomfort.com

PROJECT: Quilt Assembly Questions
Carol Anderson
chateau@cablespeed.com

PROJECT: Small Quilts - 3' x 5' Cot/ Gurney/Litter Quilts
Coordinator: Cristina Conciatori
CristinaC@operationquietcomfort.com

PROJECT: Member-to-Member Program- Quilt Supplies & Blank Denim Blocks, matching Angels with members needing supplies
Coordinator: Sandy Scharf
oqcmembertomember@gmail.com

PROJECT: Cool Comfort Neck Ties
Coordinator: Leslie Pangilinan
funtobewithlp@yahoo.com

PROJECT: Crochet & Knitted Items
Coordinators: Joanne Diehl
joanned08@netzero.com
Julie B. Barrett
jbarrett5@cox.net

PROJECT: Travel-size Pillowcases
Coordinator: Connie B.
mbfans@aol.com

PROJECT: Cards of Thanks and Well Wishes and Volunteers to Sign Them
Contact: Diane Schneider
Diane52381@nc.rr.com for guidelines

PROJECT: Sea to Shining Sea - Recycling Printer Cartridges and Cell Phones
Chair Cristina Conciatori
cristinac@operationquietcomfort.com

PROJECT: Fundraising, eBay & Amazon Sales
Contact: Cristina Conciatori for information, to register for selling on eBay or Amazon for OQC
cristinac@operationquietcomfort.com

PROJECT: Booth in A Box
Sandy Scharf (east of the Mississippi)
oqcmembertomember@gmail.com
Amber Sherman (west of the Mississippi)
amber_joyful@hotmail.com

PROJECT: Membership Questions/Comments/Posting Guidelines
Joyce Cantrell
jcantrell@operationquietcomfort.com

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OQC is proud to be working in partnership with AnySoldier.com.