Merry Christmas Follies

December 25, 2003

Merry Christmas!

What a wonderful year it has been. I have heard from so many of you all over the world this year as your lives have progressed. It always amazes me how many of you keep in touch and have so many interesting and important things going on in your worlds. May God bless you during this special season.

I though I would share some photos of our Christmas decorations, (both inside and out) and then I would share a couple of emails I received from friends in the Middle East this week. There are quite a few of you who forward these on to your troops, and I hope you know that means a great deal to me.

Thank you from ALL of us everywhere . . . I do not just mean state-side . . . I mean *everywhere* around the world.

For those of you who wrote and asked, Yes . . . Our Client party was a huge success. It is a wonderful time each year to say thank you to friends and business associates and to remind them that we love them. I took a few photos of the decorations before the party started, but I always get involved in conversations and forget to snap photos of the party.

For others who wrote and wondered if "Mr. Happy" retained his First Place Ribbon for the Neighborhood Lights compitition, No . . . Unfortunately, a three-pete is all he was able to manage. He won second place and has already begun to design new displays of next year. (I cannot wait . . .)

What a difference a year makes! Do you remember this spoof of a war poster that was flying around cyber space this time last year?

Well compare that to this latest cartoon on Saddam.

And I have also included a Christmas poem about Saddam that was sent to me this week. Enjoy this and the cartoons on the following pages.

Two weeks before Christmas in Iraq

'Twas two weeks before Christmas, And all through Iraq,
The people still worried that Sadaam would be back.
The soldiers went out on their nightly patrol,
Capturing the bad guys was always their goal!

With raids seeming endless in the triangle Sunni,
We hoped that not all of Iraq was so loony!
We gathered the tribe of Sadaam, in Tikrit,
And suddenly now they all started to snit!

They told of a farm where Hussein just might be
Odierno then called on our boys- from the great 4th ID!
More rapid than Baathists our soldiers they came,
And he whistled and shouted and called them by name

Now Delta, Now Rangers, Now Cavalry too!
On Green Hats, on Pilots, I need all of you!
Go to that farm and secure it right now!
Capture his ass- you guys know how!

Off went our soldiers under cover of night,
So stealthy, so quiet with no trace of light
While we back at home were eating our lunches,
Our boys on the ground were following hunches!

And then it was time for the raid to begin.
The first target came up -empty within!
Could it be our Intel was wrong once again?
No! Somewhere nearby is the wolf in his den!

And then, in a twinkling, camouflage torn away
In a hole in the ground did their quarry lay
Dazed and confused, right at them he looked,
Did the stupid old fool know his goose was now cooked?

He was dressed all in rags from his toes to his head,
And his beard was as matted as 12 day-old bread!
How the mighty had fallen, could this be Hussein?
One look in his eyes was to know he's insane!

Our boys got their man - how proud we all are
The relief in our country is felt near and far
A bath he has had now -yet he'll never be clean
Forever tainted with mass torture and his Fedaheen

To our soldiers we give our undying respect
You always give more than we ever expect
We hope you can have now a night with some fun
Your loved ones back home say-
JOB DAMN WELL DONE!

Deborah Sandberg
Proud Army Mom (101st)
14 December 2003

Christmas Humor

Christmas Humor

To all of you on my Friday Follies List, whether you are in Manila, Singapore, Kuwait, Bermuda, Virginia Beach, Mississippi, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Minnesota, Indiana, Colorado, Philadelphia, Key West, New Jersey, North Carolina, Indonesia, Washington D.C., Iraq, Maryland, West (By-God) Virginia, Nashville, Chattanooga, New York, Oregon, Maine, Europe, or Yuma, have a wonderful, wonderful week.

God bless.
Remember, life is short…we need to make it a good one.
Grow in peace and wisdom.

Your Friday Friend,

Judi Godsey

P.S. NOTE OF CAUTION… 20 employees were fired from The New York Times here in Norfolk for sending lewd and indecent emails. (To my knowledge, none of the 20 were on our joke list - even though some of the attorneys who represent the company were!) I have asked each and every one of you on this list to tell me if the jokes that accompany these "Follies" place you in jeopardy, or even if they offend you. Please understand that they are intended to be light-hearted and are not mean-spirited in any way. If you are ever offended, do not hesitate to ask to be taken off the Friday Follies Joke List. PSS. If you send a joke and I don't use it, it is because it has been used before, and I try not to repeat. Remember, I have been sending these since August of 1997. One tends to go through huge numbers of jokes that way. Disclaimer: When anyone asks if I type all of these jokes, the answer is, "No!" I cut and paste one evening during the week (30 minutes, TOPS). Obviously I don't have time to sit, read, and retype jokes all day!