



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HOTEL COMPANY, 1-161ST COMBINED ARMS BATTALION
JOINT BASE BALAD, IRAQ
APO AE 09391

WPRJT0/CDR

24 December 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTE

SUBJECT: Christmas Greetings

To all of the soldiers in Hotel Company, 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry (Combined Arms), I would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you, Merry Christmas.

For some of you, this is the first Christmas Season you have spent away from your family and friends. I know this can be difficult. Take solace in the fact that you are not alone. Many warriors before you have had the same thoughts and feelings you may be having on this blessed eve. Know that you are with your brothers and sisters in arms during this Holiday Season. Take joy in the fact, upon your return to family and friends, that next Christmas and all those to follow, you can look back and remember with pride, your Christmas with "the Hustlers".

I am very proud and pleased with the effort, professionalism and loyalty you have demonstrated over these last five months. Let us all continue to train and conduct combat operations with the same sense of urgency, attention to detail and sincere concern for one another during the remainder of our time deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

*Almighty and most merciful Father,
We humbly beseech Thee, of Thy great goodness,
During this Holy Season, and the year to come,
Look down and graciously hearken to us as soldiers, who call upon Thee,
That armed with Thy power, we may advance, from victory to victory,
And crush the oppression and wickedness of our enemies,
And establish Thy justice among men and Nations. Amen.*

CLAYTON T. COLLITON
CPT, IN
Commanding