



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION
CAMP AL-TAHREER
APO, AE 09344

October 3, 2004

Troopers of B/1-9 CAV, C/312 MI, and the A/312MI TUA V Platoon,

Welcome home from Operation Iraqi Freedom and thank you for your incredible performance as part of Task Force Baghdad in Iraq. I am extremely proud of you.

The range of challenges you have overcome during the OIF deployment have been extremely complex. On a daily basis your families and friends have witnessed, with freedom-loving people around the globe, the hardships and risks you have endured. Your training, sense of pride, commitment, and compassion have ensured your success.

Now your mission has transitioned from rebuilding the country of Iraq to a force protection mission, the successful reintegration of each and every Trooper into the community, circle of friends and family, and preparation to return to a more normal military lifestyle. Commanders at all levels have and will continue to take an active role in your lives, at not only the unit level, but the individual level as well in order to assist you in this transition. Every one of you has endured similar hardships associated with this deployment. In recognition of that, we have included everyone who has served in OIF in the reintegration program.

The First Team leadership has developed a three-phased reintegration program to assist all of you in this transition at Fort Hood. Senior tactical commanders, in coordination with the major agencies supporting Fort Hood, have attacked this mission head on to ensure your reintegration goes smoothly. I will need your help throughout reintegration as you continue to watch out for the soldier and family on your right and left. Your involvement is critical to mission success.

Your performance over the last year has proven to the world that the United States Army is a professional and lethal force capable of defeating any enemy. Meanwhile, your compassion and honor were ever-present, as you demonstrated America's will to achieve the goal of eliminating the threat of terrorism and tyranny to not only our citizenry, but the people of a country who you had never met.

Thank you for everything you do in our collective pursuit to secure our Constitution for future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter W. Chiarelli".

PETER W. CHIARELLI
MG, USA
Commanding