

A Package from Home

Progress Report from Israel by Barbara Silverman, February 10, 2001 (See Gertie & Jack tab on the Resnik Family Tree)

I am pleased to report that as a result of the support of many Israelis, Americans and Canadians, the "Package from Home" project is continuing. Our goal is to send out 2000 packages of Mishloach Manot for Purim to combat soldiers serving all over Israel.

Letters of encouragement, written both in English and Hebrew, for insertion in the packages have been received from Hebrew Day Schools in Toronto, New York, Baltimore, Washington, California and Chicago. In addition, we have received contributions from school committees, students contributing their own money, couples clubs, Young Israel groups and Synagogues of all denominations.

The following are excerpts (translated from the Hebrew) from some of the letters of appreciation that we have received. The sentiments expressed extend to each of you for your participation.

"I had the pleasure of being one of the soldiers whom you managed to make happy by your package. Since we serve on the Syrian border outposts, our days revolve around guarding the borders. We walk along the fence at night even when it is cold dark and rainy. At such a time, getting such a package including a letter expressing appreciation for the sacrifice each soldier is making, strengthens their spirit and resolve. In their minds they think about Klal Israel and that every one of the Jewish people takes part in this package. Thank you from the bottom of my heart." Eliyahu Romin

"I am a soldier in the intelligence forces. I received your package and I am writing this letter to thank you for this lovely gesture." Gratefully, Shimon Cohen

"Shalom, I am a chaya boded (a soldier with no family in the Country). I was so thrilled to receive such a beautiful package. I called my mother in Moscow and she couldn't believe such a thing could be. First she wept and then she said. It's true the people of Israel are one. Thank you very much. The hat, gloves and stockings keep me warm on cold nights when I am out on foot patrol. May Hashem bless you and your helpers with good health and happiness". Uri

"We were very happy to receive your useful packages. The gifts strengthened us physically and spiritually. It is very encouraging and greatly motivating to us to know that there are people who care and who are concerned. May you go from strength to strength." Yossi Goldreich, Sergeant Major, Department of Snipers, Regiment 90 "Nachshon"

"My son is stationed in Psagot. Unfortunately, it has attained the acclaim of being the most fired upon Yishuv outside of Gaza. The soldiers there are under tremendous pressure and are rarely allowed home leave. Receiving "A Package from Home" makes a tremendous difference to them. I know first hand, because my son was really thrilled with all the goodies." [A mother of a combat soldier]

Many of you have asked "What more can I do?" The most effective way to expand this project is to use your e-mail or snail mail to let others know what you are doing and ask them to join us. Tax deductible checks can be made payable to American Friends of AACI and can be mailed to the AACI at 11 Pinsker Street, Jerusalem, Israel. The checks should be noted that they are for "A Package from Home " project.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me:

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On a personal note, I have received many loving and encouraging notes together with checks. I truly appreciate each and every one. Thank you, one and all.