THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

May 3, 2004

Name O Veteran
Street Address
City ST 00000-0000

Dear Veteran:

We at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) thank you for your service to our country. We are grateful to all the men and women who risked their lives to fight terrorism in Afghanistan, Iraq, and many other places around the world. America is more secure because of your participation in these hazardous operations.

Now that you have separated from active military duty, VA can offer you a wide range of health care benefits and assistance to aid in your transition to civilian life. VA can provide combat veterans with two years of free health care for any health problem that is possibly related to service in a designated area of military conflict. It can also pay compensation for service-connected disabilities and provide other benefits.

Information about health care and benefits is provided in the enclosed brochures:

A Summary of VA Benefits
A Summary of VA Benefits for National Guard and Reserve Personnel

Our benefits offices and medical centers will assist you. If you have questions about benefits or health care you can contact VA toll-free by dialing 1-800-827-1000 for benefits information and by dialing 1-877-222-8387 for information on health care eligibility. You may also visit the VA Web site at www.va.gov. The VA home page links to the Iraqi Freedom/Enduring Freedom Web site that describes benefits for returning veterans, including current Reserve/National Guard members.

If you need help with personal and family concerns following your return from military service, or with other community readjustment issues such as finding a job, please contact a Vet Center which you can locate by calling the toll-free numbers above or by visiting www.va.gov/rcs.

On behalf of President George W. Bush and a grateful Nation, thank you for your service.

Sincerely yours,

Anthony J. Principi

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