

Greetings to All,

Once again, I am writing this update from the new country call New Iraq. We continue to make a big difference despite what has been written or reported on the news. You should be very proud of all the Bobcats to include our KIAs, WIAs and those still serving in this country. The election was a true testament of you loved ones continued commitment and sense of duty to make this country a better and more secured place for the Iraqis. Please continue to have us in your daily prayers. We could not have done this without your support and encouragement. Your continued support is what keeps us motivated and disciplined in order to keep an aggressive fight against these insurgents. Little by little we are disrupting their command and control, supply flow, and their ability to get around the battlefield to plan any future attacks. I know for a fact that they will not face us head on. They are taking the cowardly way out by attacking, running and hiding. We have a saying around here, "You can run but you can't hide". Sooner or later we will find them and their ammunition supplies by conducting house to house searches and traffic control points. All of us understand very well that this may take years, and all will not get fixed during our tour of duty. The best thing we can do for now is continue to bring order and discipline to the city of Mosul so that the follow on units can continue to build on what we have established. We are very confident that Iraq is going in the right direction.

The hardest part for me during this whole war business that I do not like (and many of our veteran friends can attest to) is the pain of losing a battle buddy. This pain was once again inflicted upon us with the loss of SGT Sherman. Our Bobcat Flag flew at half-mass until his funeral back home. This is one of many ways that we pay respect to our fallen heroes. Both SSG Melo and SGT Sherman spirits will always be among us. There isn't a day that goes by that there name are not mentioned. They are true heroes to all of us. We really miss their company and sense of humor. Memorial Service is another way of honoring them and a time to remember them the way we all want to remember them. This type of ceremony puts a little closer to our pain. We will always feel the pain but knowing that we gave them the proper honors for their bravery and courage makes it much easier to drive on with the fight against this enemy. I want to recognize our chaplain, Chaplain Carrothers and his assistance SGT Clark for making the ceremony a special and professional event.

Four months has gone by and we continue to received letters and packages. Thank you for the continue support from our wonderful organization. Every package and letter that a soldier receives brings new life and meaning to why they are here in Iraq. I know for a fact all the Bobcats are very appreciated and thankful for your support and commitment in making the soldiers feel happy and wanted.

I would like to clue you all in on a little secret. There are many pictures of our soldiers and the country of Iraq posted on this website address

<http://www.bobcat.ws/iraq.htm>. This site is sponsor by our veterans (5th Infantry Regiment Association) that fought in previous wars. The webmaster is Randy Kethcart (randy@bobcat.ws) and I know he will be honored to post any pictures that you have of your spouse in action. I recommend this website to anyone who is interested in knowing

what, where, and how we are fighting this war.

Robin and I would like to take this time to welcome CPT Burke, 2LT Saeu, MSG Lewis, SFC Williams, SFC Jackson, SGT King, SGT Leslie, and their families to our outstanding organization and team. I want to wish CPT Brown, CPT Sawyer, CPT Landsee, CPT Kuether and their families, good luck in the future and on their new assignments. Remember always, "Once a Bobcat, always a Bobcat". HOOAH!

All the companies and A-Troop are doing an excellent job. Like I have stated on the first paragraph, the reason we are doing so well against this mean enemy is because of the outstanding team work and leadership at every level. I could not have asked for a better group of leaders and units to be with during this time of war. Every soldier in our outfit is and continues to be a true professional. My boss and I are very lucky and proud to lead these fine groups of warriors. We will continue to take this charge to the end.

I would like to thank the FRG leaders who so graciously volunteer their time to take care of our families. You are the guardian angels of the battalion. You have earned your wings everyday with your kindness and dedication. And finally, Robin and I would like to thank each and every soldier and family member personally once this tour is all said and done. Please take good care of each other and stay safe.

God bless you all,

Robin and Victor.

