

Operation Letters from Home (OLH)

Week of February 3rd, 2013

Volume 1 Issue 2



New updates on our website:

SAVE Money:

We have opened up a new Section called “Save Money” which we have been and will be working on continually. “Save Money” is a section of our website that shows which multistate corporations offers Military Discounts, and what they actually offer. If you click the photo of the business it will enlarge the picture by a little and show the offers that are offered and regulations that they have as far as discounts.

<http://operationlettersfromhome.weebly.com/save-money.html>

Newsletters:

We Have made it possible for our likers to get these newsletters off of our website in case they ever want to reference back to a certain topic, or if they missed a issue.

<http://operationlettersfromhome.weebly.com/newsletters.html>

This past week OLH has been and still is contacting different businesses who have stores across the country to see why they don't have military discounts. So far we have contacted Wal-Mart via a formal letter. We also sent emails out to Applebee's, Arby's, McDonald's, Burger King, and a few others. It seems like most of the business let any location that isn't corporation owned make their own regulations as far as military discounts. But all of the corporation owned locations, for most of the businesses, have military discounts as well as firemen and policemen discounts, in all cases you have to be in uniform and have to present your ID that shows you're with the military, fire department, and police department. We are still contacting businesses about these discounts to see what they offer. We are also typing up formal letters to be sent to big corporations like Wal-Mart who have supported the troops through different ways but don't offer military discounts. Then we have corporations like Starbucks who have made it very clear that they do not give anything to our troops or their families because they do not support the war therefore do not support the troops. But what they don't understand is that the troops and their families don't get to choose where they go or what wars we fight. All they are doing is protecting our lives and our right to prosper and be happy. Well as far as I can tell it looks like Starbucks, Wal-Mart, McDonald's, and all the other ones are prospering and have some room to give discounts to our troops and their families.



PTSD Article Follow Up

After reading the Article in the last newsletter written by Dr. Clinton we decided to do a little more research into PTSD with in our military here are some table to help show how it has affected our men and women in the military.

Annual NEW PTSD Diagnoses in all Services from 2000 to 2010

Year	Not Deployed	Deployed
2000	1,614	0
2001	1,703	0
2002	1,709	138
2003	1,524	1,169
2004	1,577	3,901
2005	1,648	6,788
2006	1,714	7,762
2007	2,069	11,660
2008	2,371	14,183
2009	2,432	13,595
2010	1,423	7,739
Total	21,784	66,935

Count of Individual's with amputations by service for Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and unaffiliated Conflicts (UC) from 2001 to 2010.

Theater	OIF	OIF	OEF	OEF	UC	UC	N/A
Type of Amputation	Major Limb	Partial	Major Limb	Partial	Major Limb	Partial	Total
Army	617	270	114	21	90	20	1132
Marine	158	48	36	3	12	1	258
Navy	18	7	4	0	24	2	55
Air Force	8	11	6	1	30	1	57
Foreign	4	0	4	0	1	0	9
Other	8	3	4	0	25	1	41
Total	813	339	168	25	182	25	1552

Message from a young troop supporter:

“Hello my name is Victoria and I am seven years old. I am a Girl Scout and am selling Girl Scout cookies to donate to the troops overseas. All boxes are \$3.50 a box and will be sent to the troops after cookie sells end in March. If you would like to help me please contact us through Facebook at Tommy's Pizza Cranston or call them at 401-944-4634 for information. You may also contact Kim Menna Sacco on Facebook with any questions. You can make checks payable to GSCCC and drop them off or mail checks to Tommy's Pizza Too 870 Oaklawn Avenue Cranston, RI 02920. We also have a collection box dedicated to raising money for our cause. I would also like to add that if you would like to place the donation online please contact my mom Melinda L. DeWitt at katluvsonly1@hotmail.com with your email address and she can email you the link. Keep in mind that you will have to mail her a check or money order made out to: GSCCC. My mom will email you her address and when your check or money order is received she will confirm your promise to donate. All boxes donated will be sent to those fighting for our country. My goal is to send as many as possible. I would like to thank you for your support if you choose to do so.”

How many can we get for our troops?



Military and how they react to the new Gun Laws and restrictions being passed in some states and are being thought about in the Federal Government.

Story from <http://www.military.com/daily-news/2013/01/29/green-beret-group-lobbies-against-gun-control.html>

More than 1,100 former and current Army Special Forces troops -- Green Berets -- have reportedly put their names to a letter condemning any efforts to restrict gun ownership following the massacre of 20 students and six staff at Sandy Hill Elementary School in Newtown, Conn.

The 2,900-word letter has been distributed to media outlets and posted on Professionalsoldiers.com, which is operated by retired Army Special Forces Master Sgt. Jeff Hinton. Because of the sensitive nature of their military careers the names of those signing the letter are not being released.

Hinton -- who has routinely exposed phony Green Berets and others on his website -- said he has confirmed that everyone who put his name to the letter is a current or former Special Forces soldier. Military.com could not validate all 1,100 names by press time.

Hinton's original goal was to collect 100 signatures. He was surprised by the response he received.

The letter makes the case for allowing civilians to own and use a military-style assault rifle, in particular the AR-15, as well as high-capacity magazines that can hold in excess of 10 rounds.

While the AR-15 is designed to look like the Army's M4A1 rifle, it is not able to fire automatically and cannot be reconfigured to do so, the letter states. As for limiting magazines to 10 rounds, they wrote "it is our considered opinion that reducing magazine capacity from 30 rounds to 10 rounds will only require an additional 6 -8 seconds to change two empty 10-round magazines with full magazines.

"Would an increase of 6 -8 seconds make any real difference to the outcome in a mass shooting incident? In our opinion it would not."

The view offered by the Special Forces soldiers is markedly different than that given by retired Army Gen. Stanley McChrystal, the former commander of forces in Afghanistan, who also came out of the Special Forces community.

(Continued next page)

Would you like to send letters to our troops please click the link below to be taken to our website's section to learn how to:

<http://operationlettersfromhome.weebly.com/get-involved.html>

Are you a Veteran, presently in the military, family of a troop, wounded warrior, or sadly the family of a fallen HERO? If so please email us at OperationLettersfromHome@gmail.com to tell us your story and to get you on the list to be written to!!!



In interviews with various media outlets McChrystal drew no hard distinctions between the AR-15 and M4, both of which fire a .223 caliber round.

"We've got to take a serious look -- I understand everyone's desire to have whatever [weapon] they want -- but we've got to protect our children, we've got to protect our police, we've got to protect our population," McChrystal said during an appearance on MSNBC's Morning Joe earlier this month. "Serious action is necessary. Sometimes we talk about very limited actions on the edges and I just don't think that's enough."

In its letter, the group states they also are "loving and caring fathers and grandfathers" who have been "stunned, horrified, and angered by the tragedies of Columbine, Virginia Tech, Aurora, Fort Hood, and Sandy Hook."

But solutions cannot and will not be found in new laws restricting gun ownership, the group wrote. The writers argue that the Supreme Court has maintained the right for citizens to own weapons in common use, which does not rule out military-style weapons.

In its letter, the group also offers several recommendations it says will help solve gun-violence, including gun-safety programs in schools, legislation mandating that court-determined mentally ill people undergo treatment, and giving border states the job of implementing border control laws to prevent illegal shipments of both firearms and drugs

The government intercepts only about 10 percent of illegal drugs coming into the country, while its attempt to track illegal guns has also proven a failure, the group said, pointing to the "Fast and Furious" program that allowed criminals to buy and move guns.

"Given this dismal performance record that is misguided and inept ... we believe that border states will be far more competent at this mission," the group says.

The group also supports passing Assisted Outpatient Treatment laws to allow courts to require individuals with mental disorders to comply with treatment.

"In each of the mass shooting incidents the perpetrator was mentally unstable," the group wrote in the letter. "We also believe that people who have been adjudicated as incompetent should be simultaneously examined to determine whether they should be allowed the right to retain/purchase firearms.

(Continued on next page)

Very moving Jeep commercial from the Super Bowl today. We do not share this to try to promote Jeep just love how they remember the troops on this big day of FOOTBALL!! Just click the link to be taken to the youtube video to watch it.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=FadwTBcvISo

As for schools, which have been the sites of several mass murders in recent history, the group supports state and local boards developing security measures they deem necessary. This includes arming staff, if that is their wish. The group also calls for firearms safety instruction -- such as the National Rifle Association's "Eddie the Eagle" program -- in classrooms.

The repeal of the "Gun-Free School Zones Act of 1990," does not work but establishes schools as tempting targets to anyone wanting to inflict violence, the group said in their letter.

The group also recommends that gratuitous violence in movies and video games be discouraged, citing research showing links between the exposure to those popular mediums and desensitization to actual violence.

"We believe that it is time that we take personal responsibility for our choices and actions rather than abdicate that responsibility to someone else under the illusion that we have done something that will make us all safer," the group states. "We have a responsibility to stand by our principles and act in accordance with them. Our children are watching and they will follow the example we set."

(This was an article copied and pasted from www.military.com actual link to article is listed above. www.military.com is a great website that has a lot of useful information.)

What do you think about the gun laws? Please message us your thoughts and you might see them in next week's newsletter!!!





Chief Chris Kyle was in the United States Navy from 1999 until he was honorably discharged in 2009. Mr. Kyle was one of the top snipers in American Armed Forces. Mr. Kyle recorded the most career confirmed sniper kills in United States Armed Forces history. Mr. Kyle was feared so that the Iraqi Insurgents nicknamed him al-Shaitan ("the devil") and placed a bounty on his head. Mr. Kyle had extensive combat experience which included sniping, close-quarters battle, reconnaissance, long-range desert patrols, personal security and the training for foreign allies. While a Navy SEAL Mr. Kyle also deployed and fought with members from the Army and Marine Corps.

Chief Petty Officer Kyle served on Seal Team 3 for four combat tours in Operation Iraqi Freedom and other missions. For CPO Kyle's bravery on the field of battle, he was awarded two Silver Stars, five Bronze Stars with Valor, two Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medals, one Navy and Marine Corps commendation, and the Grateful Nation Award, given by the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs.

After returning from his final deployment CPO Kyle was made Chief Instructor for the Navy's Naval Special Warfare Sniper and Counter Sniper Teams, during which he wrote the Navy SEAL's first sniper manual.

After getting out of the service CPO Kyle wrote the New York Times bestselling book American Sniper: The Autobiography of the most Lethal Sniper in U.S. Military History.

"Chris Kyle had the dream of forming Craft upon completion of his last enlistment so that he could continue to serve this great nation by helping those headed into harm's way. When he founded Craft, he pulled together a remarkable team who share in his vision to provide the best training to those who need it the most."- <http://www.thecraft.com/AboutUs.html>

Chief Petty Officer Chris Kyle was killed on February 2, 2013 by a Retired Marine who Kyle was trying to help coup with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) through counseling him at a gun range.

RIP peace Our American HERO.



