

Operation Paperback Newsletter - November 2003

Shipment Totals

October 2003: 2,382 books

Grand Total: 148,537 books

Call for Volunteers

The recent deployments have made our shipping list over 100 addresses strong and it grows daily. We need all the help we can get! Encourage coworkers, your church community, fellow military spouses, the local library or family members to come to this web site and click on the “Call for Volunteers” button.

Special packages for the Holidays

If you would like to put together special holiday themed book packages, feel free to do so. Please be aware of how long packages take during Christmas time. The US Postal Service released the following mailing deadlines to assure that packages will be received at locations such as Afghanistan and Iraq in a timely manner. To be safe, if you mail books via media rate, send your packages out no later than Thanksgiving. See below for exact deadlines:

Parcel post: November 13

Space-available mail: November 28

Parcel-airlift mail: December 4

Priority and first-class letters or cards: December 11

Urgent mailing list

We have started a list for urgent shipments. These are folks who are in high need areas or who have been in our database for a while, but received minimal shipments of books from volunteers. Email OpAddresses@usmilitarysupport.org for the latest urgent mailing list.

Books and Goodies

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, we have been asked by some chaplains to provide additional items such as goodies from home to keep up morale. Contact us if you would like to supplement your book packages – we will give you the addresses have made these special requests and suggestions for what you should include in your package. One idea – fill up the extra spaces between your books with hard candy! Please, no chocolate. Chocolate melts in deserts.

Usual Reminders

Do not use old addresses. The packages will bounce back or go into postal purgatory – big waste of your effort. When you are on the verge of shipping, please contact us at OpAddresses@usmilitarysupport.org and get the latest address list.

Have you seen the most recent thank you notes? We are posting them online constantly. [Check them out.](#)

Thanks for volunteering! Please never hesitate to contact us with ideas or suggestions. We are always working to make Operation Paperback bigger and better!

Chrissy and Andrea