



LYNNE ABRAHAM
DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
1421 ARCH STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19102**

MEDIA ALERT

Date: June 17, 2003
Contact: Cathie Abookire / 215-686-8711
Director of Communications

**'OPERATION SPIRIT FROM AFAR' DELIVERS SUPPLIES TO HELP ENSURE
THAT NO SOLDIER IS FORGOTTEN**

Operation Desert Scorpion Is The Largest Deployment Since April 7, 2003

WHAT: MILITARY PICKS UP HUNDREDS OF BOXES OF SUPPLIES
WHEN: TUESDAY JUNE 17, 2003
3PM
WHERE: DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
1421 ARCH ST.
OUTSIDE

District Attorney Lynne M. Abraham and Paul "Earthquake" Moore will greet the 28th Infantry Division of the Pennsylvania Army National Guard as they arrive at the D.A.'s Office to load hundreds of boxes of supplies to send to the troops overseas. The supplies--everything from phone cards to chapstick to CDs to Marshmallow Peeps-- were collected through "Operation Spirit From Afar," which the D.A. announced at an April 2, 2003 press conference.

Lt. Colonel James P. Wong, Commander of the 103d Engineer Battalion, and his soldiers will arrive in two HUMMVs (High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles) and one HEMMT (Heavy Expanded Tactical Truck) Cargo Truck. Upon arrival, the soldiers and employees from the D.A.'s office will form an assembly line to load the trucks. The Army will then deliver the supplies to the Cargo Terminal at Fort Dix for the Liberty USO for distribution to the troops overseas.

"The war is not over," said District Attorney Lynne Abraham. "Operation Desert Scorpion is underway, and the military says our soldiers will be there at least until March if not longer. According to the USO, there are approximately 300,000 soldiers serving right now. We want them to know that we support them, we remember them and we are grateful to them for their service."

Paul 'Earthquake' Moore, who recently returned from serving in Germany said that a package from home meant everything. "I just felt so happy when somebody from home sent something. It really means a lot," he said.

The following soldiers of the 28th Infantry Division will participate in the delivery: SSG Timothy Staver, Cadet James Kane, SPC Paul Moore, SPC Norman Madsen SPC Pedro Gonzalez and PFC Gerald Jackson.

Today's pickup includes more than 400 boxes of supplies from people around the region and 10,000 packs of Marshmallow Peeps from the Just Born Company of Bethlehem, PA.