

Treasures for the Troops

Q What is Treasures for Troops?

A Treasures for Troops is an exciting new American Red Cross program that offers the American people a way to support deployed U.S. military members. The program was developed as a way for communities to express their care, concern and support.

Additionally, this program is expected to contribute to increased awareness of the important American Red Cross mission of providing a vital communication link between the home front and service members.

The treasure is a gift package that offers fun and relaxation for deployed troops. It is a lightweight, compact and reusable travel bag that contains the following items:

- Deck of cards
- Book of crossword puzzles
- Electronic game
- Wooden game
- Magnetic travel chess and/or checkers game
- Miniature hand-held fan
- Multi-tool
- Hackey Sack ball
- Package of tissues
- Package of Wrigleys Juicy Fruit gum
- Package of SPF 30+ towelettes and moist towelettes
- .37 oz. package Mentos
- 1 package Lance cookie or cracker snack
- 1.5 oz. package Sunshine Cheez-It
- 1.5 oz. package Snyder's of Hanover mini pretzels
- 2 oz. Knott's Berry Farm raspberry shortbread cookies
- Package of Air Head candy

Q What costs does the \$20 cover?

A The \$20 covers the bag, contents and shipping.

Q Is this a fundraiser for the Red Cross?

A No. One-hundred percent of the money goes directly towards the gift packages and shipping. The Red Cross is not retaining any of the funds collected.

Q Will my donation purchase a gift package that will reach the troops by the holidays?

A History has shown us that there is an outpouring of generosity for the troops during the holiday season. Treasures for Troops is a year-round program that is being launched in November 2003. Because the launch comes very close to the holidays, there will naturally be expectations that the gifts will arrive in time.

Treasures for Troops is a great way to support a service member during the holidays, however, it is not a targeted holiday promotion. It is possible that your gift will not reach the troops before the holidays, but will be distributed by American Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Services (AFES) deployed staff on the ground as soon as they arrive.

Q How do I know that my donation will reach the troops?

A Your donation is very important to the U.S. service members who are far from home. Shortly after you make a donation, you will receive an acknowledgement from the chapter or station office. As donations come in, they will be mailed regularly to Red Cross national headquarters to ensure continuous purchases and shipments.

Deployed American Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Services (AFES) staff overseas will receive the shipments and distribute the gift packages to the troops. As soon as we are able, we will have photos at <http://www.redcross.org> showing soldiers receiving gift packages.

Q How much does the gift package cost?

A Although the gift package costs \$20 (includes shipping and handling), you may make a donation of any amount. Your donation will go toward the purchase of one or more gift packages, depending on the amount of the donation. When a soldier receives a gift package, he or she will also receive a card acknowledging that the gift is from the American public through the Red Cross.

Q Can you provide me with a brief explanation about American Red Cross services to the military?

A American Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Services is available to all members of the armed services and their families. The program provides counseling, communications and emergency financial services to military members and their families. It also provides services to veterans and information to local National Guard and Reserve units about mobilization and deployment schedules. For more information about Red Cross services to the military and their families, go to http://www.redcross.org/services/afes/0,1082,0_321_00.html.