

Rep. Matsui Highlights Opportunity to Wish Our Men and Women in Uniform a Safe and Happy Holiday Season.

"Holiday Mail for Heroes" to Deliver One Million Cards to Service Members and Families

Red Cross, Pitney Bowes to Screen, Sort, Deliver Cards Before Holidays

Congresswoman Matsui hopes that constituents of California's 5th district, and the greater Sacramento area, will join her in sending holiday greetings, and our sincerest wishes for a safe and happy holiday season, to our men and women in uniform serving their country at home and overseas.

Holiday Greetings can be mailed to:

Holiday Mail for Heroes

PO Box 5456

Capitol Heights, MD 20791-5456

Or simply dropped off at my Sacramento Office:

501 I Street

Suite 12-600

Sacramento, CA 95814

The below statement was released by the Red Cross, and contains information for individuals wishing to participate in the "Holiday Mail for Heroes," effort.

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to Service Members and Families

Red Cross, Pitney Bowes to Screen, Sort, Deliver Cards

Before Holidays

National Headquarters

2025 E Street, N.W.

Washington, DC 20006

<http://www.redcross.org/>

WASHINGTON, Monday, November 10, 2008 - The American Red Cross and Pitney Bowes Inc. are teaming up to send holiday cards to service men and women in the United States and around the world. From Tuesday, November 11 until Wednesday, December 10, the public is invited to send holiday cards with their message of thanks and cheer to a special post office box. The Red Cross and Pitney Bowes will then screen cards for hazardous materials, sort and package the cards, and deliver them to military bases and hospitals, veteran's hospitals, and other locations during the holidays.

For official guidelines and instructions please visit: <http://www.redcross.org/email/saf/>

Send your holiday greetings to:

Holiday Mail for Heroes

PO Box 5456

Capitol Heights, MD 20791-5456

Holiday Mail For Heroes continues the Red Cross tradition of service to the armed forces, which includes handling emergency communications that link service members with their families back home, providing access to financial assistance from the military aid societies, counseling, referral to community resources and assistance to veterans. Pitney Bowes is providing all screening, packaging and shipping at no charge, as well as providing thousands of volunteer hours from employees around the country.

"This opportunity is such a great way for the public to personally support the military and say a special thank you for their service this holiday season," said Gail McGovern, Red Cross President and CEO. "I'm especially proud that the Red Cross is able to be a part of this effort, and I hope everyone will take the time to join us and send an extra card for the military."

In 2007 Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. approached the Red Cross to distribute thousands of holiday cards coming to the facility for wounded troops. The Red Cross reached out to Pitney Bowes to turn the project into a larger opportunity that could reach members of the military at other facilities. In all, nearly 600,000 cards were screened for hazardous materials, sorted, and delivered in 2007.