



Until Every One Comes Home®

## USO<sub>2</sub>GO



“Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. We appreciate all that you do for us over here. We truly appreciate the time, money and effort that each of you puts into programs like these. These are the things that put smiles on even the most war hardened faces!”



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## USO2GO

Right now, there are troops serving in a remote location in Afghanistan at a tiny mountaintop outpost. Conditions are extremely harsh. They take cold showers. Some live in mud huts. Hot meals are infrequent and entertainment non-existent. But relief is on the way. USO2GO kits deliver a little fun to relieve the bleakness and boredom in their lives.

From chicken noodle soup to the latest Nintendo<sup>®</sup> Wii™ game, and from volleyballs to board games, USO2GO kits contain more than things, as welcome as these items are. USO2GO kits transform a remote base into a place where troops can organize a pick-up football game, relax in beanbag chairs and swap stories, or send e-mails to loved ones back home.

The troops helped us figure out what to offer in USO2GO kits. Dartboards. Art supplies. Video games and consoles. Comfortable seats to stretch out on. Little diversions, but welcome breaks to what they describe as feeling like “Groundhog Day.”

USO2GO really matters in places like Afghanistan’s Korengal Valley. No roads lead in, so our USO2GO boxes were flown in. The troops stationed there used what we sent to create a makeshift USO center. A karaoke machine is bringing big laughs, especially when the commander uses it! “Nothing fancy, but it will be a place for guys to go to play a few games of cards or read a book, just an easy laid-back area,” they wrote. “We get all our mail and supplies by aircraft up here, so you can see why this is such an awesome program for us.”

At a base in Wasit Province in Iraq, battalion members now jam in a “music room” they set up with USO2GO equipment. TVs, game systems, snacks and comfortable furniture really make a big difference. Elsewhere in Iraq, FOB Summerall organized a Fun Run using USO2GO items as prizes. And here’s what brought a lump to our throats. These amazing men and women used the run to benefit the USO.

USO2GO delivers a bit of fun, a chance to unwind, a few minutes to connect with friends for those stationed far from any familiar comforts. What else is inside those boxes? A reminder that Americans are thinking of them, every day, no matter where they serve.



This program is one of the many ways that the USO fulfills its mission to lift the spirits of U.S. troops and their families. Through special programs, targeted services, entertainment tours and in more than 140 USO centers around the world, this private, nonprofit organization continually seeks ways to build morale and express appreciation to active duty military personnel and their families.