

THE WHITE HOUSE

August 27, 2009

Dear Friends:

I am writing for a simple reason – to say thank you. Thank you for all that you do to support our military families. Your service is an inspiration.

Every day, in cities and towns across our Nation, military families – from active duty, National Guard and Reserve to the families of veterans, prisoners of war, troops missing in action, and the survivors of our fallen heroes – work to strengthen communities and support each other. In standing alongside our servicemen and women and their families, you are also dedicating your lives to the service of our Nation. And we are so thankful for you.

America is blessed to have a strong military with dedicated servicemen and women who serve every day to defend our Nation and keep us safe. Our Armed Forces and their families have done their duty, and we, as a grateful Nation must do ours and provide them all the support they need. They do not complain about their sacrifices, but we all can help lighten their load.

The President is committed to doing just that. From increasing military pay and recruiting additional permanent forces to investing in military family programs and veterans services, please be assured that this Administration is committed to reducing the stress on our military families.

I truly believe that this is a cause that calls each of us to serve, and I thank you for the work you're already doing to help. Still, it is my great hope that all Americans will honor our men and women in uniform by never taking the blessings of freedom for granted and by doing our part to support the families of our military.

Again, thank you for all you do to support military families. You are truly watching over those who watch over us. I wish you all the best.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Obama". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.