



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT MAJOR
203 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0200**

**REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF**

August 24, 2004


Dear Family Member:

I am proud and humbled to join the Armed Forces Services YMCA during Military Family Month in thanking you for the hard work and dedication you show every day. Your outstanding support to the Army family is unrivaled.

As we continue to fight the global war on terrorism, our soldiers can spend long periods of time away from their families. We are an Army at war, supporting a nation at war. Our young men and women serve willingly to preserve the freedoms for all Americans. Our Army has a tough mission and they need the support of husbands and wives, children and parents, brothers and sisters. Our families and communities are what make our Army and this country strong.

During this week-long celebration, I ask you to remember America's sons and daughters in harm's way. We would like to recognize and applaud you for your efforts and support of our soldiers and families. I extend my most heartfelt appreciation and gratitude to you from those of us who serve.

Sincerely,


Kenneth O. Preston
Sergeant Major of the Army