



THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

OCT 31 2006

Mr. Eric F. Herzberg
8109 Shoal Creek Drive
Laurel, Maryland 20724-2949

Dear Mr. Herzberg,

It was with great sadness that I learned of the loss of your son. I offer you and your family my condolences during this most difficult time.

Your son served our Nation during a critical time in our history. His commitment not only helped change the lives of millions of Iraqi citizens, but it also upheld the values that make our Nation so remarkable. In promoting liberty abroad, he helped to ensure the liberty of each of us here at home.

Lance Corporal Eric Herzberg answered the call to duty with valor and dedication. I join a grateful Nation in saluting his service and mourning your loss. Please know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

With my deepest sympathy,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald Rumsfeld".