

AMERICA'S & *Heroes & Heroines*

Many Support Causes That Show Troops They Care

(NAPSA)—Many Americans have found a new way to show American troops serving in Iraq since 2003 that they still care and that these servicemen and service-women haven't gotten lost in the shuffle.

"When I toured Iraq in 2005, I realized that even doing something little to express our gratitude can go a long way," said country music artist Aaron Tippin, national spokesperson for the Armed Services YMCA (ASYMCA).

"These people are fighting for our freedom—the least we can do is show our appreciation," he said.

ASYMCA—the nation's leading nonprofit organization providing support services to military personnel and families—encourages Americans to show support for the troops.

Send A CD To A Soldier

Americans can show their support through the Send a CD to a Soldier program. By visiting www.sendacdtoasoldier.com, you can donate a copy of Patriotic Country 2, to be included in care packages and distributed to the troops by ASYMCA.

The compilation CD includes country music hits by famed musicians, including Hank Williams Jr., Willie Nelson, Lonestar, Aaron Tippin, Alabama, Johnny Cash and Elvis Presley.

ASYMCA programs help families of service members cope with the realities of military life by offering support services such as child care, vocational training and health and wellness assistance.

"One of the hardest things a ser-



OVER THERE, OVER HERE—Helping troops overseas and their families here is one way Americans show they care.

vice member will ever do is leave his or her family," explained retired General Norman Schwarzkopf, who commanded the troops in Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

Gen. Schwarzkopf said he held his subordinate commanders personally responsible for both the service members under their command and those service members' families.

Helping Soldiers' Families Helps Soldiers

"I found that knowledge of their families' health back home contributed significantly to the military readiness and preparedness of the soldiers," Schwarzkopf added. "It was the soldiers who were most preoccupied with their families' well-being who were least able to focus on the job at hand."

ASYMCA, he said, provides the kind of support our military personnel and their families deserve.

Tax-deductible donations to ASYMCA can be made by phone at (800) 597-1260, online at www.ASYMCA.org or by mail: Armed Services YMCA; 6359 Walker Lane, Suite 200; Alexandria, VA, 22310.