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President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Well, you are getting us almost out of Iraq. I wish it were possible to remove all the troops, but I understand that there are good reasons for leaving a significant force there. Iran, for example.

On to Afghanistan, the destroyer of empires. I have hope that we can succeed there. We have one advantage that countries in the past have not had. We are not trying to be an empire. I hope you will not lose the understanding that America is best when it helps other countries, not when it rules them.

Please continue your work to help veterans of these conflicts – and veterans of earlier conflicts, too. I think that sharing Eric Newhouse's book, *Faces of Combat, PTSD and TBI* will help get the word out about the health care needs of our military. I hope you agree.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Blaschko  
President, Idyll Arbor

p.s. The race between you and Garry Trudeau to see who will be the first to hold up the book continues. Please pass this weekly book on to an appropriate staff member. Every bit of support will help.

Tom