



# POSTAL NEWS

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## **JOINT U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE CONTRACT AIMS TO IMPROVE MAIL SERVICE TO MILITARY PERSONNEL DEPLOYED OVERSEAS**

Washington, DC — As part of sustained efforts to introduce efficiency and speed of mail to members of America's Armed Forces serving overseas in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom, the U.S. Postal Service and the Department of Defense today announced a contract award that will provide an end-to-end network solution for all mail to civilian and military personnel deployed in the Middle East and Persian Gulf areas.

The contract, awarded to Kallita Air, calls for the company to provide mail transportation to its hub in Bahrain, mail security, all terminal handling, and transportation to 10 other major Defense Department hubs serving operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kuwait. The contract will take effect in February 2006.

Paul Vogel, vice president of Network Operations Management for the U.S. Postal Service, says the contract will help improve the efficiency, speed of delivery, and security of military postal services for the men and women serving in the Armed Forces.

The Postal Service currently dispatches approximately 200,000 pounds of military mail to the Persian Gulf each day aboard Boeing 747s configured to carry freight.

Since 1775, the U.S. Postal Service has connected friends, families, neighbors and businesses by mail. It is an independent federal agency that visits more than 144 million homes and businesses every day and is the only service provider delivering to every address in the nation. The Postal Service receives no taxpayer dollars for routine operations, but derives its operating revenues solely from the sale of postage, products and services. With annual revenues of \$70 billion, it is the world's leading provider of mailing and delivery services, offering some of the most affordable postage rates in the world. The U.S. Postal Service delivers more than 46 percent of the world's mail volume—some 212 billion letters, advertisements, periodicals and packages a year—and serves seven million customers each day at its 37,000 retail locations nationwide.