

DEPLOYMENT BLESSING OF 1ST STRYKER BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM (LANCERS)



Fort Lewis, Washington

Almighty God, our Friend and Father, our nation is joined with a coalition of nations resolved to defeat certain structures of destruction that threaten to overwhelm humanity. Our 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team (Lancers), 25th Infantry Division (Light), United States Army, has been ordered into battle to help fulfill that resolve by supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Our soldiers have worked long and hard, training for their mission, training with their new equipment, methods, communications, training their minds to be hard, their intellects to be clear, their physical frames to be tough, reliable tools, their warrior spirits to be indomitable. Our soldiers have made the best possible use of the best possible resources their mother country can provide them. In every way, 1st Brigade is battle-ready.

1st Brigade is eager to fulfill their mission. We commend 1st Brigade, therefore, to your loving care and gracious providence.

Give these our beloved soldiers victory over their enemies. Steel their precious arms in the hour of battle. Confirm their ancient courage amidst the stress of action. Allow them to relish the adventure and the delight of soldiering. Confirm their resolve to protect the innocent and one another from harm. And let them experience continuously the intense gratitude of their countrymen.

May we always be devoted to you. Our essential unity with you abides through all circumstances. In you and through you and for you we are and we pray. Amen.