

with my Karsai hat and scarf flowing. Laughter, encouragement and validation are the tools I use, and the healing is beginning. The things my ears have heard, but every day is getting better here.

A lady, Chong, from Seoul, came by our office to buy a ticket. I murder the Korean language by the way. She was a little depressed, after she heard my Korean she was more depressed. Her group is building an elementary school in Karte Sey, my neighborhood.

JANUARY 21

Another great week in Afghanistan and Pakistan. I have news from Mazar, Kandahar, Mayama, Yokalan, Bamiyan, Islamabad, Faizadab and Kabul. It's getting better every day. These people are rebuilding their bombed out homes, streets, offices, schools and factories. New mines are being found and blown up, new areas are being made safe. The tone of this message is about the destruction and cost of war, a subject most of you are thinking and praying about.

The mine removal left is: 10,000,000 at \$5,000.00 per mine according to my friend, Peter, the UNS mine expert. This city of 2.5 million has no electricity, postal service, the intra-country aviation is five pilots, I'm one of them, two KingAir 200's and three UN planes. People are washing clothes and themselves in the river that runs through the city. The outside temperature is +4 C or about 37 F. I'd be on the low side to tell you \$200 billion is needed to start putting Afghanistan back together.

Merihan, my 10-year-old friend and neighbor, is very kind, smart and attractive. Her right leg below the knee is gone, so is her index finger on the right hand. I got her a pair of shoes and some other stuff. One of her brothers is a boxer. She likes to watch me box him. Also, she and her sister bring me magazines in English to read. I've given her 18-year-old brother a dictionary. He is really sharp and he will teach all English. He teaches high school.

My travel to work takes me past badly damaged and destroyed homes, schools where roofs, rafters and walls are down to where the window holes make a "U" in the sky. The office buildings and stores are open like the back of a kid's doll house. The chuck holes in the streets are from rockets. Last Friday I was playing soccer with a ball my mother had given the kids. I found a bomb crater you could have made a round swimming hole out of, about 12 feet deep. The area we played in was totally destroyed, not a building or home usable. We

kids thought I was dancing and stopped the game to watch!!!

Almost all the water is pumped from wells in the streets by little kids. About 75 percent of the Afghanistan population is being fed by the UN or private food programs. One out of 10 have some part of their body injured or missing, mostly from the mines.

JANUARY 30

Brawford received an e-mail from International President Jidge Verity addressed to house corporation volunteers, saying in part, that some of the Delt shelters across the country look like the rubble in Kabul. Denny differs with Jidge because after living in Afghanistan this winter he was able to defend the Afghans. According to Brawford, he sees the Afghans sweeping the streets with long brooms at 6 a.m. when he drives to the airport. Brawford had a little wisdom to share with the Delts in America.

Seriously gentlemen, we can bring our homes away from home to any level of condition we choose. A Dari (Farsi) proverb goes like this: "It takes many drops to make a river." You working collectively can do it. When do you start? I'll help out! "Start, Start, Start," all of you. I know it's always been the pledges' job. Well, it's too big a job for just the pledge class.

Our future dreams are about high paying jobs, beautiful wives and children, helping teach, starting our own business, providing an essential service in medicine, etc. One of the essential ingredients in bringing these dreams to fruition is: "can you be trusted?"

Webb Moffet, a Rensselaer Delt alumnus who I met in 1957 at the Gamma Mu shelter, hired me and a few other brothers to run the ski lifts at Snoqualmie Pass Ski Area. He owned them. I can still hear Webb saying to me, "take care of the little things, Denny, and the big things will take care of themselves."

Brothers your fraternity has trusted you with a little thing...taking good care of your shelters...clean and repaired. Your house corporation will meet you more than half way if you get started, let them paint, ask for a new vacuum, or repairs and parts to get the shelters you have back to quality condition and service.

In my 24 years seving Gamma Mu at the University of Washington... invariably when asked why did you join Delt ..I've heard, "because the place was clean when I rushed." Ladies hang out at our place because it's clean. Moms are happy, we have attracted a better cook... all because it's clean, our reputation is our reputation, not some houses down the

