

kolot A WORLD OF JEWISH VOICES

[Home](#) | [Bookstore](#) | [Sign or Read Guestbook](#) | [About Kolot](#) | Email maria@kolot.com
 Guestbook hosted by Dreambook

How to Order Kosher Meals in the U.S. Military

The following procedure was confirmed with the Operational Rations Unit at the Defense Supply Center in Philadelphia:

To order kosher rations, soldiers should contact their unit, installation level, or base food supply. These are the ordering activities that send the orders to Defense Supply Center Philadelphia. The meals would be ordered and funded through these channels for the soldiers' use in performance of their military duties at no charge to the soldier.

Your unit or food supply office can obtain the meals from the Operational Rations Unit at the Defense Supply Center in Philadelphia. Contact information for DSCP and for the contractor are given below.

Operational Rations Unit at Defense Supply Center Philadelphia:

Phone:
444-7348 (DSN) or 215-737-7348 (commercial)

Phone:
444-3688 (DSN) or 215-737-3688 (commercial)

E-mail:
paa5481@exmail.dscp.dla.mil

Contractor, My Own Meals, Inc.:

Phone:
847-948-1118

E-mail:
sales@myownmeals.com

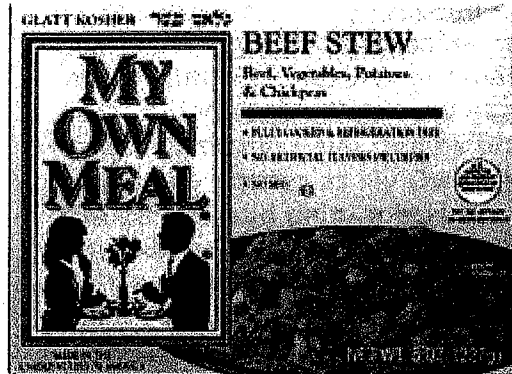
Web sites:
www.myownmeals.com
www.halalcertified.com

[Top](#)

Soldiers Get Kosher Rations from MOM

By Mary Anne Jackson, President of My Own Meals, Inc.

Posted August 2000 in response to the article, [Meet Rick, U.S. Marine](#)



We at My Own Meals, Inc., created the U.S. Military kosher ration program and have been supplying kosher rations since 1996. It took over five years (1990-1996) of both our

President, Mary Anne Jackson's time and effort, and the combined effort of many others working with us, including all Jewish Chaplains. We've had 100% on-time delivery experience and ship as few as one case to any unit anywhere in the world requiring kosher rations. So, no individual soldier has to go without kosher rations just because he/she is only one.

We found that Jewish soldiers in the U.S. Marines have had the most difficulty in getting kosher rations, primarily because of a complicated approval process where every order must be approved by Marine headquarters. Just recently, Camp Pendleton ordered 42 cases of kosher rations after the diligent effort of one soldier to get them for himself. It is important for any U.S. Marine at Camp Pendleton or 49 Palms or the Navy out of Hawaii to know that these rations are in stock and available immediately from Camp Pendleton's inventory. (Webmaster's note: This article was posted in August 2000.)

Marines need to start requesting them. If not, the ordering activity may let them expire to show headquarters that there is not demand for kosher rations. If this happened, it could significantly damage the ability for any Marine to get kosher rations in the future. So, could you let Marines at those bases know that kosher rations are in stock at Camp Pendleton and available for **every** Marine there needing them?

And soldiers, including Marines everywhere in the world, have a right to kosher rations, as part of the negotiations we did with the Pentagon. In exchange for this right, we had to agree to ship as few as one case on demand to anywhere in the world.

Two corrections to the article about Marine Rick:

1. Vegetarian rations are **not** kosher certified and are produced in the same MRE plants making standard MREs without a kosher cleaning. The Muslims have problems with the vegetarian rations as well since pork products could have been made on the same equipment in the morning with the vegetarian ones in the afternoon, or produced side-by-side. And, there are ingredients in some of the components which cannot be kosher or halal certified.
2. Halal rations are unique and separately ordered and issued. We ship halal rations branded as J&M(TM) brand and kosher as My Own Meal(R) brand. Only the pareve and dairy meals are dual certified as both kosher and halal. The meat processing differs between the two religions. We co-authored and published the first international halal production standards manual which shows the differences (available through E-mail request: sales@myownmeals.com). Mary Anne Jackson, President and founder also wrote an article about these differences in "Food Technology" magazine, speaks about the differences at trade and Jewish groups, and "Food Engineering" magazine is writing about her speech given at the Institute of Food Technologists' Annual meeting in Dallas in June 12, 2000. Kosher and halal are similar, but different.

[Home](#) | [Bookstore](#) | [Sign or Read Guestbook](#) | [About Kolot](#) | E-mail: maria@kolot.com

kolot: \kō-lōt' n. [Hebrew] **1** : voices **2** : Web site for Jewish voices