



PERSONNEL AND
READINESS

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

FEB 14 2014

The Honorable Carl Levin
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Department of Defense Task Force on the Care, Management, and Transition of Recovering Wounded, Ill, and Injured Members of the Armed Forces, referred to as the Recovering Warrior Task Force (RWTF), was established by section 724 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 (Public Law 111-84). Section 724(c) requires the Department to provide the RWTF report for FY 2013 along with the Department's evaluation (response to) the RWTF recommendations within 90 days, and a subsequent plan to implement the RWTF recommendations within 180 days, following report publication.

The Department continuously evaluates opportunities to provide the best care and support to its wounded, ill, and injured Service members, their families and caregivers. To provide a more complete response, the Department combined its evaluation of the RWTF report recommendations along with our implementation plans, and is providing the Committee with one attached consolidated report, together with the RWTF report for FY 2013, within 180 days following publication as required.

The 21 RWTF Recommendations in the FY 2013 report built upon those made in the previous two years, with attention to lessons learned across the Department over the last twelve years, as well as the changing landscape of services and supports. In its third year, the RWTF continued assessing the programs and services available to Recovering Warriors (RWs) and their family members, from case management through transition to the Department of Veterans Affairs and civilian life, in accordance with the RWTF's congressional mandate. The RWTF continued four lines of inquiry in this report: Issues unique to Reserve Component RWs and families, parity concerns for remotely located RWs and families, transition outcomes, and timely publication of the most relevant and salient policies.

Thank you for your interest in the health and well-being of our Service members, veterans, and their families. A similar letter is being sent to the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Armed Services.

Sincerely,

P.M. Tamburrino, Jr.
Chief of Staff
Performing the Duties of the
Principal Deputy Under Secretary of
Defense for Personnel and Readiness

cc:
The Honorable James M. Inhofe
Ranking Member

PROO 5017-13



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FEB 14 2014

The Honorable Howard P. "Buck" McKeon
Chairman
Committee on Armed Services
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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Sincerely,

P.M. Tamburrino, Jr.
Chief of Staff
Performing the Duties of the
Principal Deputy Under Secretary of
Defense for Personnel and Readiness

cc:
The Honorable Adam Smith
Ranking Member