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February 6, 2005

America remains a nation at war, fighting adversaries who threaten our civilizatic way of life. The most significant aspect of our current strategic reality is that the War on Terror in which we are now engaged will be a protracted one.

The Army's primary mission is to provide necessary forces and capabilities to the Combatant Commanders in support of the National Security and Defense Strateg have more than 300,000 Soldiers deployed or forward stationed today to support operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other theaters of war and to deter aggressio securing the homeland. We are fighting today while simultaneously preparing for tomorrow.

To continue to accomplish our mission, we are aggressively restructuring the Arn are transforming from a force designed for contingency operations in the post-Cc era to a force designed for continuous operations in a new era that presents chal to the Nation ranging from traditional to potentially catastrophic.

The Army is dependent upon the resources requested in the fiscal year 2006 Pres Budget, coupled with emergency supplemental appropriations, to support current operations. These funds will also enable the force to recover from the stress plac equipment and Soldiers during combat and continually "reset" itself for future deployments. Moreover, these resources are required to continue to transform th into a larger, more powerful force built on self-sufficient brigade-based modules. force will be more flexible, more rapidly deployable and better able to sustain the protracted military campaigns and conduct the joint, expeditionary operations rec by the 21st century security environment.

We are sustaining our global commitments while making tremendous progress in transformation. We will need the continued support of the Congress, the Presider the American people to accomplish our mission today and tomorrow, while provic the well-being of our All-Volunteer Soldiers, their families and our civilian workfo are serving the Nation in this time of war.

Peter J. Schoomaker  
General, United States Army  
Chief of Staff

Francis J. Harvey  
Secretary of the Army