



National Hispanic Heritage Month
“Diversity United, Building America’s Future Today”

15 September – 15 October 2012

“Our country was built on and continues to thrive on its diversity, and there is no doubt that the future of the United States is inextricably linked to the future of the Hispanic community.”

~President Barack Obama, October 19, 2010

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from 15 September to 15 October by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America. These Hispanic Americans have united their diverse backgrounds, experiences and sacrifices to play a vital part in the Army’s success and history, while helping to build America’s future.

Over the past 236 years, Hispanic Americans have left an indelible mark by unselfishly serving the Nation and helping to secure peace for the future. Throughout our history – from the Revolutionary War to the current conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq – these Soldiers have united together, distinguishing themselves in battle, as evidenced by both Medal of Honor recipient Sergeant First Class Leroy Petry and the highly decorated Borinqueneers of the Puerto Rican 65th Infantry Regiment. It is this type of diversity and leadership that has empowered so many of our Soldiers, Civilians and Families to perform beyond their normal abilities to keep our Army and Nation strong for years to come.

We give our thanks and gratitude for the past and present contributions Hispanic-American Soldiers and Civilians have made to the success of our Army and our Nation. During National Hispanic Heritage Month, we encourage our entire Army Family to publicly commemorate these contributions that help make our Army what it is today – the premiere fighting force in the world. Army Strong!

Raymond F. Chandler III

Raymond F. Chandler III
Sergeant Major of the Army

Raymond T. Odierno

Raymond T. Odierno
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff

John M. McHugh

John M. McHugh
Secretary of the Army