



Patriot Day: National Day of Service and Remembrance

11 September 2012

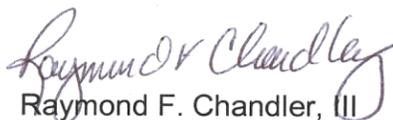
"Indeed, the last decade has been a challenging one for our country. But we have also seen the strength of the United States – in cities that have refused to give in to fear; in communities that have persevered through hard economic times; and, above all, in our men and women in uniform and their families who have borne an extra burden for our security and our values."

President Barack Obama, September 8, 2011, USA Today

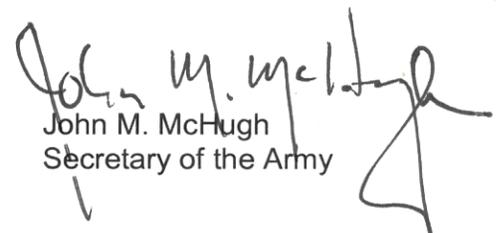
Eleven years have passed since the tragic events of September 11, 2001, that took the lives of nearly 3,000 people. Since then, our Nation has shown strength and commitment while enduring challenges at home and conflict abroad.

This adversity links us together as Americans and bonds Soldiers, Army Civilians, Families and Veterans. America's Army is the Strength of the Nation, and our men and women in uniform have continued to epitomize resiliency, strength and commitment. We are proud of the contributions our All-Volunteer Force has made over the last decade and are thankful for the sacrifices our Army Family has made to protect and defend this country.

As we observe Patriot Day 2012, we ask that you pay tribute to all those who serve this great Nation: the men and women of the Armed Forces and those heroes in our neighborhoods and communities – our police officers, fire fighters and other first responders. Honor those we have lost since 2001 and always remember those who continue to defend our freedoms around the world today. We will not forget. We will remain Army Strong!


Raymond F. Chandler, III
Sergeant Major of the Army


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


John M. McHugh
Secretary of the Army