

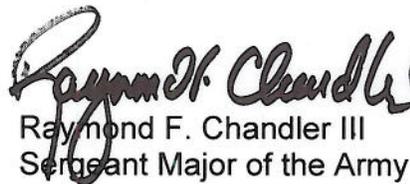


**National American Indian Heritage Month
November 2013**

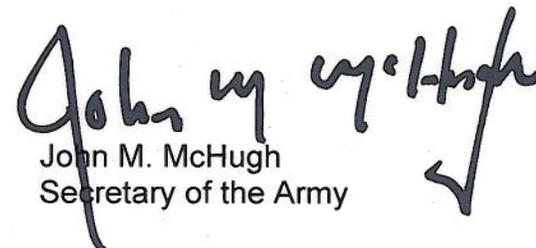
Each November the Army celebrates National American Indian Heritage Month by recognizing the accomplishments of this country's original inhabitants, explorers and settlers. Throughout our Army's 238-year history, American Indians have served valiantly and with distinction in times of peace and war, while also fighting for the right to be an equal part of our Nation.

American Indians have a distinguished legacy in our Army – many thousands have served in the armed forces from the early days of the Revolutionary War, in support of the Lewis and Clark expedition, as Scouts with the U.S. Cavalry and as Code Talkers in World War II. This legacy continues today with the brave Soldiers who have served and continue to serve in Iraq, Afghanistan and around the world. We are proud of their service and honored by their sacrifices.

This letter expresses our appreciation and gratitude for the lasting contributions American Indian Soldiers and Civilians have made to our profession and for their continuing contributions that will benefit our Army and Nation in the future. During American Indian Heritage Month, we encourage our Army Family to commemorate these contributions that help make our Army what it is today – Army Strong.


Raymond F. Chandler III
Sergeant Major of the Army


Raymond T. Odierno
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John M. McHugh
Secretary of the Army