



## THE JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON, D.C.

Fellow Warrior-Citizens,

As the newest member of the Joint Team at the Office of the Assistants to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for National Guard and Reserve Matters, I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself to you and to express my personal commitment to aggressively support all of you as I advise the Chairman on Reserve Component issues.

Having just returned from a year in Iraq, I have had the recent opportunity to fully appreciate the tremendous contribution that each of the Reserve Components has made—and continues to make—to what is truly a Total Force effort. There is no argument that, but for the operationally-focused Reserves, the range of capabilities available to combatant commanders today would not exist.

We possess the most operationally-savvy, combat-hardened Reserve force in the nation's history. It is a force that has left behind a Cold War mentality as it redefines, redesigns, and reshapes itself for an uncertain and challenging future. There is work yet to be done as we seek to find the key balance between sustaining solid operational readiness, while still remaining a truly "reserve" force of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coasties who lead civilian careers in communities across America. It is critical that we do this.

As we work together to find the balance, and to eliminate barriers to achieving a truly integrated Total Force capability, feel free to contact this office if you have thoughts or contributions that you believe would support this effort. As the Assistant to the Chairman for Reserve Matters, I will work closely with each of your Reserve Component Chiefs in all respects, but I also welcome your direct input.

Finally, on behalf of the Chairman, I want to express his enduring gratitude for the sacrifices that you, your families, and—in many cases—your employers continue to make. But for that selfless service, we would not be the finest fighting force in the history of the world.

With my admiration,

CHARLES D. LUCKEY  
Major General, U.S. Army  
Assistant to the Chairman JCS  
For Reserve Matters