



UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

PERSONNEL AND  
READINESS

JAN 3 2005

The Honorable Duncan Hunter  
Chairman  
Committee on Armed Services  
U. S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515-0552

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to deliver the enclosed policy memoranda to you in compliance with Section 577 of Public Law 108-375, the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005, which directed the Department of Defense to have a sexual assault policy in place by January 1, 2005.

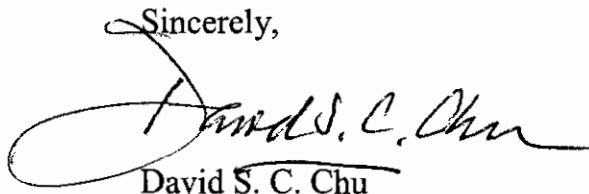
Over the past year, the Department has been working collaboratively with the Services, members of Congress, and national experts to address the crime of sexual assault within our ranks. As a result, the Joint Task Force for Sexual Assault Prevention and Response was established in October 2004 as the single point of accountability for the Department's sexual assault policy. Its initial task was to develop policy incorporating the criteria set forth in Public Law 108-375. The enclosed policies provide a solid foundation that improves prevention of sexual assault, enhances support to the victims, and increases offender accountability. The Department is also committed to, and currently developing, a policy that provides for confidential reporting. The complexity of the issue requires additional consultation to ensure that the Department implements a viable program. We expect to have this completed in the near future.

In order to meet the January 1, 2005 requirement, the Department issued Directive-Type Memoranda as the first step of a comprehensive, consistent policy. To assist your review, an executive summary accompanies the enclosed policy memoranda. Moving forward, these will be consolidated into a Department of Defense Directive that provides further details and instructions.



Over the next several weeks, the Department will work closely with the Services to implement the policies in ways that address Service-specific requirements. The Joint Task Force will provide oversight of the implementation process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David S. C. Chu". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

David S. C. Chu

Enclosures:

As stated

cc: The Honorable Ike Skelton