



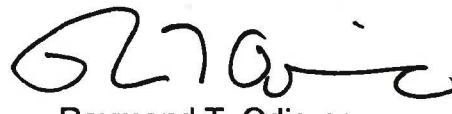
## 2011 Veterans Day

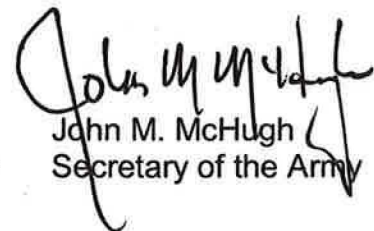
Since 1919, Americans have paused to remember the service and sacrifice of the men and women who have defended the American way of life. Our veterans have enlisted in peacetime and wartime, placing themselves in danger, serving with honor under difficult circumstances and often making the ultimate sacrifice to keep our Nation free. We owe a great debt to those who have assumed the ultimate responsibility of citizenship.

On that first Armistice Day, Americans marked the end of World War I - "the war to end all wars." Yet, as we have seen, foes of liberty continue to emerge, requiring the steadfast service and resolve of our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen. During almost a century of conflict and change, the courage and commitment of our military men and women have never faltered. It is their strength that has sustained us through these uncertain times and ensured our interests are protected at home and abroad.

We encourage you to thank those who serve today and the generations who came before them. Take the time, not just today but every day, to honor our fallen and wounded heroes, remember the missing, and recognize all who today fight to defend our country and our freedom.

  
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