



**SECRETARY OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON**

**MAY 27 2021**

To the Soldiers, Civilians, and Families of our Army:

I want you to know that I have an unceasing admiration for your remarkable sense of duty and devotion – thank you. It has been my highest honor to serve alongside you. Having served in many capacities both in and out of uniform for over three decades, starting out as a young Ranger private to most recently as the Acting Secretary, it has been an utter privilege.

I have continued to be amazed, impressed, and humbled by the state of the Army and with the professionalism, capabilities, and hard work of our Soldiers and Leaders. Our Army is strong. We are ready. We are modernizing. We are deployed supporting and defending our Nation. It is your deep commitment to preserving and defending our Constitution that makes our Army what it is today. A bedrock of the Army's long history is continual forward progress, renewed by transition, and guided by dedicated leaders. As I step away, know that I will continue to be a strong advocate for the Army Team. May God bless you, your families, and this great Army.

Army Strong!

Sincerely,

John E. Whitley  
Acting