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CAR Opening Remarks

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**STATEMENT BY**

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**BEFORE THE**

**SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**DEFENSE SUBCOMMITTEE**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

**Chairman Inouye, Senator Cochran, distinguished members of the subcommittee; thank you for the invitation to appear before you today to discuss the state of your Army Reserve. It is an honor to testify before you on behalf of more than 205,000 Army Reserve Soldiers.**

- After nearly ten years supporting the warfight in Afghanistan and Iraq, the Army Reserve is a battle-tested, seasoned, and a trusted part of the total force.**
- Our formations routinely meet the demand for military capabilities that support domestic and expeditionary operations.**
- As an operational force, we offer strategic agility and depth as a cost-effective solution in a resource-constrained environment.**

- I strongly contend it is our obligation to the nation, and to future generations of Army Reserve Soldiers, that we remain operational.

## **ROAD MAP FOR THE NEXT DECADE**

- **2020 Vision and Strategy**
  - Details my vision for the Army Reserve as an enduring operational force and serves as a broad blueprint for achieving it.
  - Establishes the foundations for the operational concepts and strategies; organized, modernized, postured, and resourced to provide support to the Total Army.

## **INITIAL STEPS TAKEN TO DATE**

- The Army Reserve Enterprise – new management culture where leaders function for good of the enterprise.
- Realignment of Army Reserve Headquarters, Legacy and Command and Control structure.

- **Expanded Outreach to all Service Members and Families through three Virtual Installation pilot sites.**
- **Cultivating positive Soldier-Employer relationships – a must for an operational force of the future.**

### **PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT YEAR**

- **Expand Virtual Installation to five pilot sites using FY 12 MILCON appropriations.**
- **Strengthen Total Wellness Programs - improved medical and dental care, behavioral health support, and spiritual care.**
- **Develop a Program Objective Memorandum (POM) 13-17 strategy that reflects the resource requirements of an operational force in the Base Budget.**

### **AN OPERATIONAL FORCE BENEFITS THE NATION**

- **Helps the Army mitigate current capability shortfalls and allows for a greater role in the nation's defense with**
  - **Combatant Commander Security activities**

- ***Domestic disasters***
- ***Security Cooperation Operations***
- ***Contingency Operations***
- ***Theater Security Cooperation Programs***
  
- **The Army Reserve is a “best value” - the nation *pays the full cost for a reserve component Soldier only when he/she is mobilized.***

## **CONCLUSION**

- **We have built an Army that is *dependent on having access to the reserve when it needs us.***
  
- **Choices made now will determine the Army force mix and capability for the future.**

### **DO WE TURN BACK THE CLOCK AND REVERT TO**

- **a strategic reserve, with limited readiness capabilities as the current conflicts resolve -**

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**OR**

**DO WE ENSURE THE DEFENSE OF THE NATION WITH**

- **an enduring operational force with the readiness levels that provide operational capabilities across the full spectrum of conflict.**

**Thank you once again for inviting me today to speak before this committee and for supporting our Citizen-Warriors.**

**I am ready to address your questions.**