

APPENDIX H:

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

MEMORANDUM



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PERSONNEL AND
READINESSOFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

MAR 29 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
UNDER SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
DEPUTY CHIEF MANAGEMENT OFFICER
CHIEF, NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU
ASSISTANT SECRETARIES OF DEFENSE
GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
DEFENSE
DIRECTOR, OPERATIONAL TEST AND
EVALUATION
DIRECTOR, COST ANALYSIS AND PROGRAM
EVALUATION
INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
DEFENSE
ASSISTANTS TO THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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MANAGEMENT
DIRECTOR, NET ASSESSMENT
DIRECTORS OF DEFENSE AGENCIES
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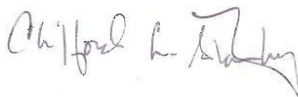
SUBJECT: Sexual Assault Awareness Month – April 2010

The Department of Defense is observing its sixth annual Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), which provides us an opportunity to raise awareness and promote prevention of sexual violence through special events and public education. SAAM also helps us further the evolution of our military into an environment that collectively works to prevent sexual assault.

The SAAM 2010 theme is *“Hurts one. Affects all,”* which focuses on mission readiness. As is readily understood throughout the military, mission readiness defines a unit’s ability to deploy quickly and efficiently, and to protect the security of our country. A sexual assault in a unit can have devastating consequences to mission readiness by devastating the life of the victim, and the military’s ability to work effectively as a team. Commanders and senior enlisted leadership must set the tone in their units to prevent this crime, and not damage the trust that our Military members have in their leaders and their peers.



Sexual Assault Response Coordinators and Victim Advocates in the Services are professionals who can assist with the effective transmission of this message. However, commanders and senior enlisted personnel are key to the successful implementation of the Department's efforts. I ask you to support and take part in your Service's sexual assault prevention and response programs. Additional information is available at www.myduty.mil. Your participation in April's SAAM activities demonstrates the Department's worldwide commitment to the safety, welfare and readiness of its personnel.



Clifford L. Stanley