



Headquarters
United States Central Command
7115 South Boundary Boulevard
MacDill AFB, FL 33621

Dear Readers of *Family Magazine*:

Thank you.

On behalf of the more than 215,000 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who serve in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility, thanks for the steadfast support that you – our military families – provide to those of us in uniform. Many of us have been deployed in recent years, a number of us on multiple tours. Knowing that we have had the love and support of those at home has been a tremendous source of strength.

Your job has not been easy. You – our troopers' spouses and parents, sons and daughters – have had to take on extra tasks during deployments. You've been Mr. Mom or Mrs. Dad, and you've taken on new roles as sports team coaches and PTA leaders, class parents and Scout leaders. Meanwhile, our children have had to bear a burden of worry as well. And while those in uniform periodically receive recognition for their service, family members generally serve without similar recognition for the roles they play and the sacrifices they make. Rest assured, though, that what you do has not gone unrecognized or unappreciated by those who wear the country's uniform.

So, again, thank you for all that you have done. Thanks, in particular, for hanging tough in the face of long separations and during trying circumstances. Your strength has enabled and inspired us.

America doesn't have just the best military in the world, it also has the best military families! And those of us in uniform appreciate that fact more than you can ever know.

With deep appreciation,

*Thanks for your
tremendous support!*

David H. Petraeus
General, United States Army
Commanding