

**March 1, 2013**  
**Office of the Secretary of Defense Public Affairs**

**SUBJECT: Implementation of Sequestration**

“We hope that Congress will pass a balanced deficit reduction plan that the President can sign, and sequestration is reversed before too much damage is done to our national defense capability. The threat of sequestration has brought significant uncertainty into the lives of our military personnel, families, retirees, civilian workforce, contractors, and defense industry partners, and this uncertainty is expected to continue given ongoing budget uncertainty. We are committed to carrying out our defense mission while dealing with the senseless chaos and inefficiency of sequestration that will seriously disrupt our ability to serve the nation. The rigid nature of the cuts forced upon this department, and their scale, will result in a serious erosion of readiness across the force. In the days and weeks to come, we will continue to consult with OMB and to plan how best to reduce spending in accordance with the law.”