



## CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

WASHINGTON, DC 20318-9999

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### MESSAGE TO THE JOINT FORCE

I am deeply humbled to serve as the 22nd Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Our Joint Force is the most professional and capable military on the planet. It remains that way because of each of you – all 2.8 million servicemembers and civilians of the Joint Force. You answered the call to serve and volunteered. As an American, I am deeply grateful for your sacrifices, and as a warfighter, I am incredibly honored to serve alongside you.

Our world remains a dangerous and dynamic place. Our Nation's adversaries can never doubt the readiness, capability, and fighting spirit of the Joint Force. Defending our Homeland remains fundamental to our national security. Our most basic responsibility is to be a force properly armed, globally integrated, and ready to fight and win the Nation's wars now and in the future. There is no more important job.

Fulfilling this responsibility requires an entrepreneurial mindset that drives us to identify opportunities, take calculated risks, fight through adversity, and foster innovation across the force, interagency, industry, and with our allies and partners. Our approaches to building and fighting the force must keep pace with changes to both the strategic environment and technology. Each of us, as a caretaker of the profession of arms, must be ready to adapt and strengthen the institution to meet the challenges before us.

None of this will be easy. Your service and the sacrifices of your families are critical to our national security. The most important thing you should know from me is that I trust you. I trust you – to make hard decisions, to persevere in adversity, and to do the right thing. Over the coming weeks, I will engage with the Joint Chiefs and Combatant Commanders to listen to their perspectives before issuing my priorities. Thank you for your commitment to defending our Nation. It is an honor to serve with each of you and your families.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Daniel Caine", is positioned above the typed name and title.

J. DANIEL CAINE  
General, U.S. Air Force  
22nd Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff