



CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

WASHINGTON, DC 20318-9999

2 October 2015

MESSAGE TO THE JOINT FORCE

I am honored and humbled to represent you as the 19th Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Our Nation has the most professional and capable military force in the world because of you—our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Civil Servants. I want to begin by thanking you for who you are and what you do. Every day, in every task, you answer the Nation's call and you deliver.


Today, we face a complex and volatile global security environment with a wide range of challenges. We will meet those challenges. We must also be ready to meet tomorrow's challenges.

To ensure we maintain a flexible, versatile, and adaptable force today and tomorrow, I will focus on three key areas as I begin my time as Chairman:

- **Restore joint readiness.** Our fundamental responsibility to the Nation is to be a ready force.
- **Improve our joint warfighting capability.** We must maintain our ability to deter potential adversaries. When deterrence fails, we will deliver Joint Forces that can fight and win.
- **Develop leaders for Joint Forces Next.** The future operating environment will place new demands on leaders at all levels. Our leaders must have the training, education, and experience to meet those demands.

In the weeks ahead, I will engage with leaders at all levels and will provide my strategic direction to the Joint Force in greater detail. I look forward to your input as an important element of shared understanding and trust.

Know that I am fully dedicated to providing you with the leadership and support you deserve.


JOSEPH F. DUNFORD, JR.
General, U.S. Marine Corps