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10 USC 130b

Sent: Wed, 22 Jul 2009 08:24:57 -0400
From: "Neis, Thomas LCTR ICS OC ICS PA" <thomas.neis@is.pentagon.mil>
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"Camp,

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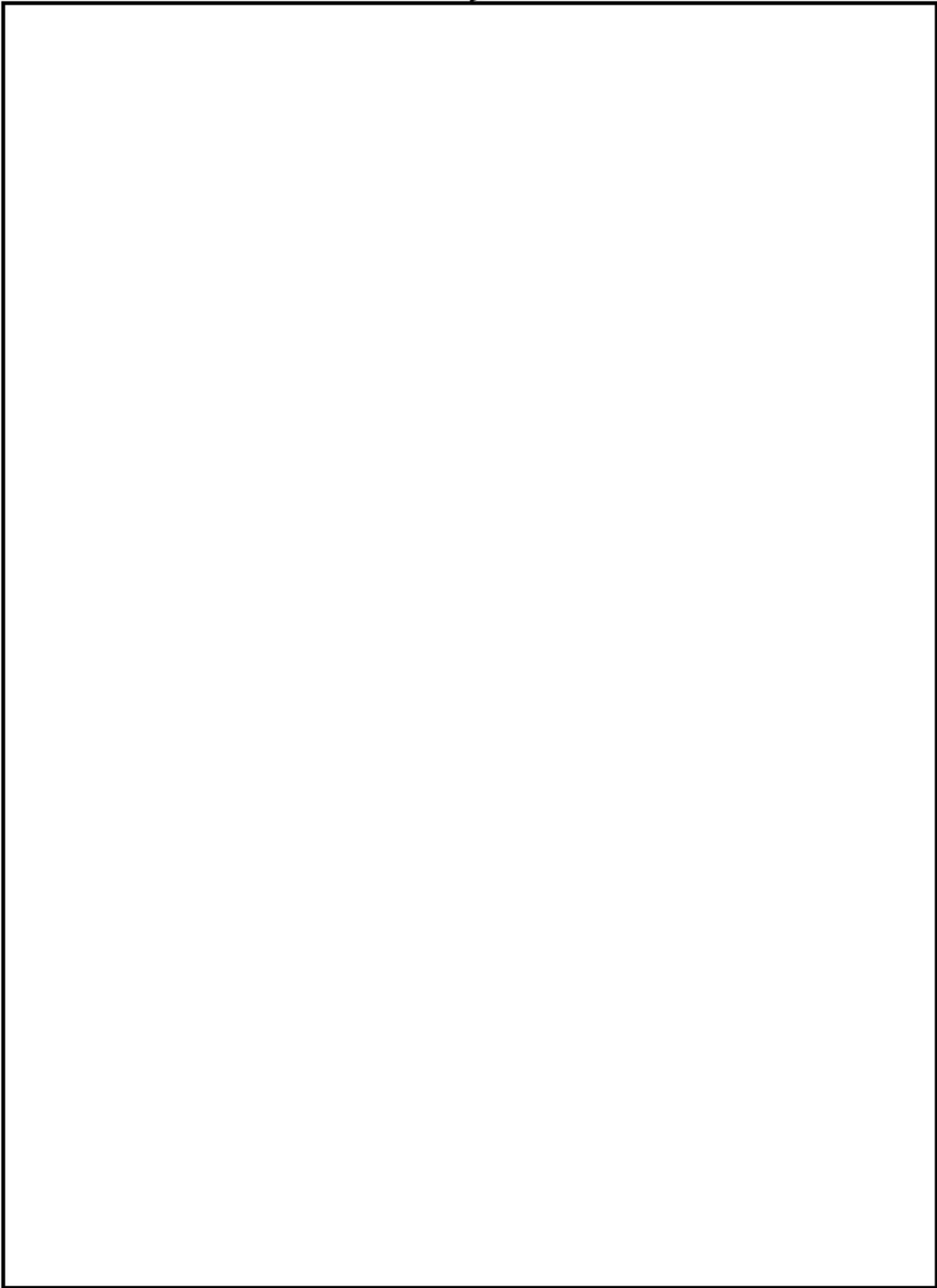
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10 USC 130b
10 USC 424

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10 USC 424



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10 USC 130b
10 USC 424

Bcc: "Camp, Donald A." </o=eop/ou=first administrative group/cn=recipients/cn=donald_a._camp>

Subject: Chairman's View 22 Jul 09

[Chairman's View 22 Jul 09.pdf](#)

<<Chairman's View 22 Jul 09.pdf>>

Attached is the latest Chairman's View.

Thank you,

Tom Neis

Tom Neis
Public Affairs
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CHAIRMAN'S VIEW

A summary of key themes, messages and talking points



July 22, 2009

The Message

This past week the Chairman completed a 7-day trip to Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan where he visited with U.S. forces and key leaders. This trip was conducted in conjunction with the Summer USO tour and was highlighted by a visit to the USS Ronald Reagan and an all-hands call in Bagram - transcript available here: <http://www.jcs.mil/speech.aspx?ID=1221>.

AFGHANISTAN

With the new strategy and virtually all of the additional forces in place in Afghanistan, the effort there, the U.S. military's main effort, is entering a pivotal time in the war. We need to turn the tide in the next 12-18 months.

Protecting the Afghan people and winning their respect, trust, and confidence is vital in defeating the Taliban and al Qaeda. A newly issued directive by the ISAF commander helps to avoid civilian casualties by placing new control measures on the use of air power when civilians are involved. Measures like these are only effective if understood by all troops, regardless of rank, and they are.

Operations recently undertaken by the Marines in Helmand Province are designed to employ the "clear, hold, and build" concept and so far, are proving to be successful. Our forces in Afghanistan have shown remarkable discipline and dedication which reflects well on their leadership, belief in the mission, and family support from home. They know the Afghan people are the center of gravity.

PAKISTAN

Pakistan continues to make gains fighting extremists and insurgents. This is particularly true with regards to the ongoing counter-insurgency operations in the FATA and Northwest Frontier regions.

Pakistan has learned much about counter-insurgency, and is applying those lessons well -- especially as it pertains to the handling of internally displaced persons (IDP). The challenge that IDPs represent was unprecedented for an operation of this type. And yet it is clear that the Pakistan military and Frontier Corps are doing all they can to mitigate the impact to the lives of their fellow citizens ... and are trying to make it easier for those who are able to return home.

From the Podium

From the Chairman while he traveled to Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan this past week:

"I believe with the depth of my heart and soul that we can succeed here. We've got to be patient and focused on protecting the Afghan people."

"Our troops right now, even down to the junior levels, know what they need to do in a counterinsurgency."

"If what's happened in Swat over the last six weeks or so is indicative, I'm optimistic. They've [Pakistan] learned a good deal."

Headlines

Head of U.S. Joint Chiefs Praises Pakistani Operation
[New York Times](#)

Mullen Thanks Servicemembers in Afghanistan
[AFIS](#)

Teacher, Can We Leave Now?
No. [New York Times](#)

U.S. took too long to cut Afghan casualties-Mullen [Reuters](#)

U.S. military boss urges Iraq to settle differences [Reuters](#)

U.S. praises Pakistan handling of Swat crisis [Reuters](#)

Mullen Helps Celebrate New Opportunity for Afghans
[AFPS](#)

Kirkuk Progress is 'Impressive,' Mullen Says
[AFIS](#)

US commander consults Pakistan on anti-Taliban campaign [Reuters](#)

Mullen Reflects on Latest Trip to Afghanistan [AFPS](#)