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10 USC 130b

Sent: Fri, 01 May 2009 12:34:24 -0400

From:

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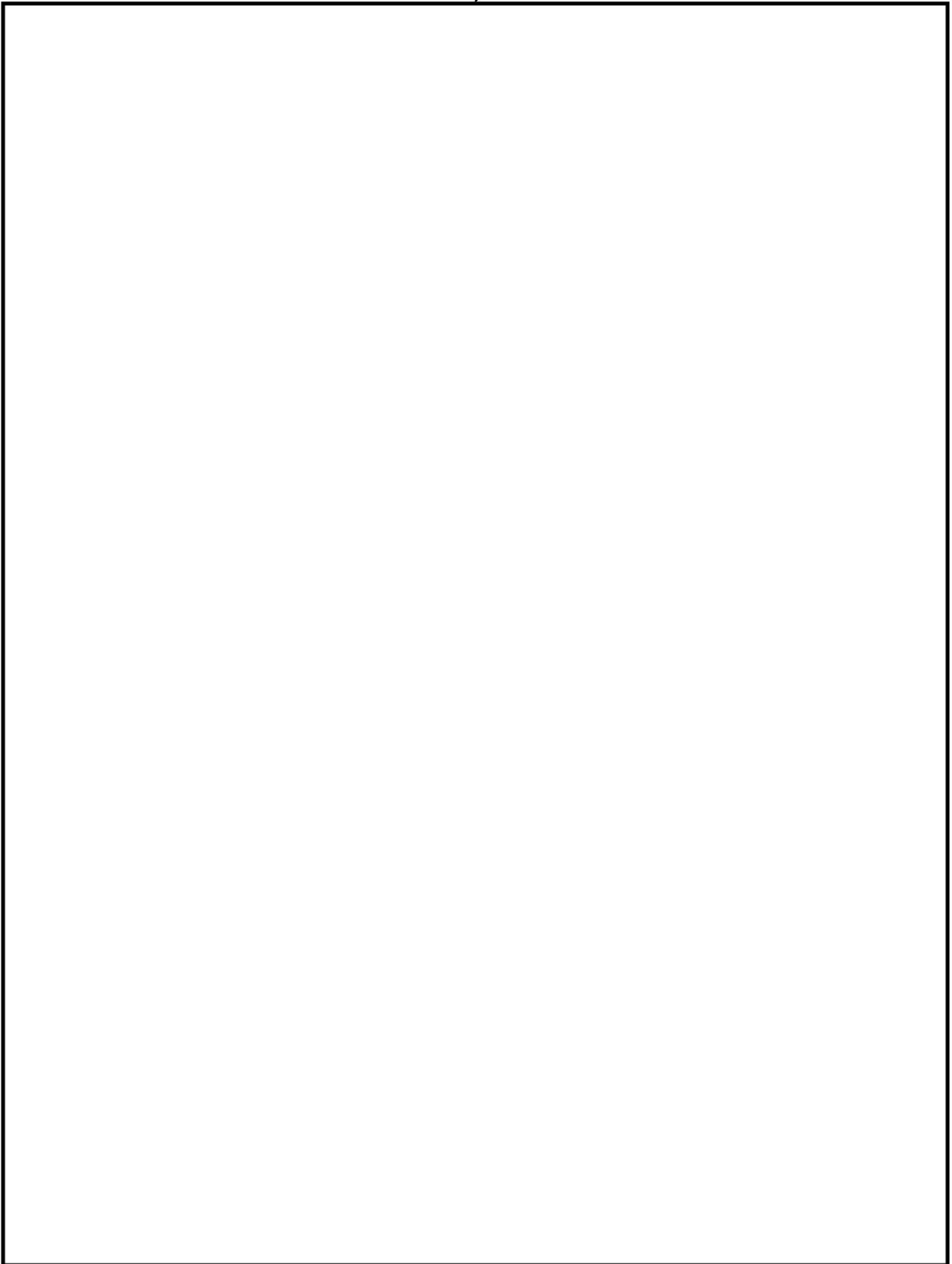
<michael.flynn@js.pentagon.mil>,

"Flynn, Michael T BG JCS JS HQ"

[Redacted]

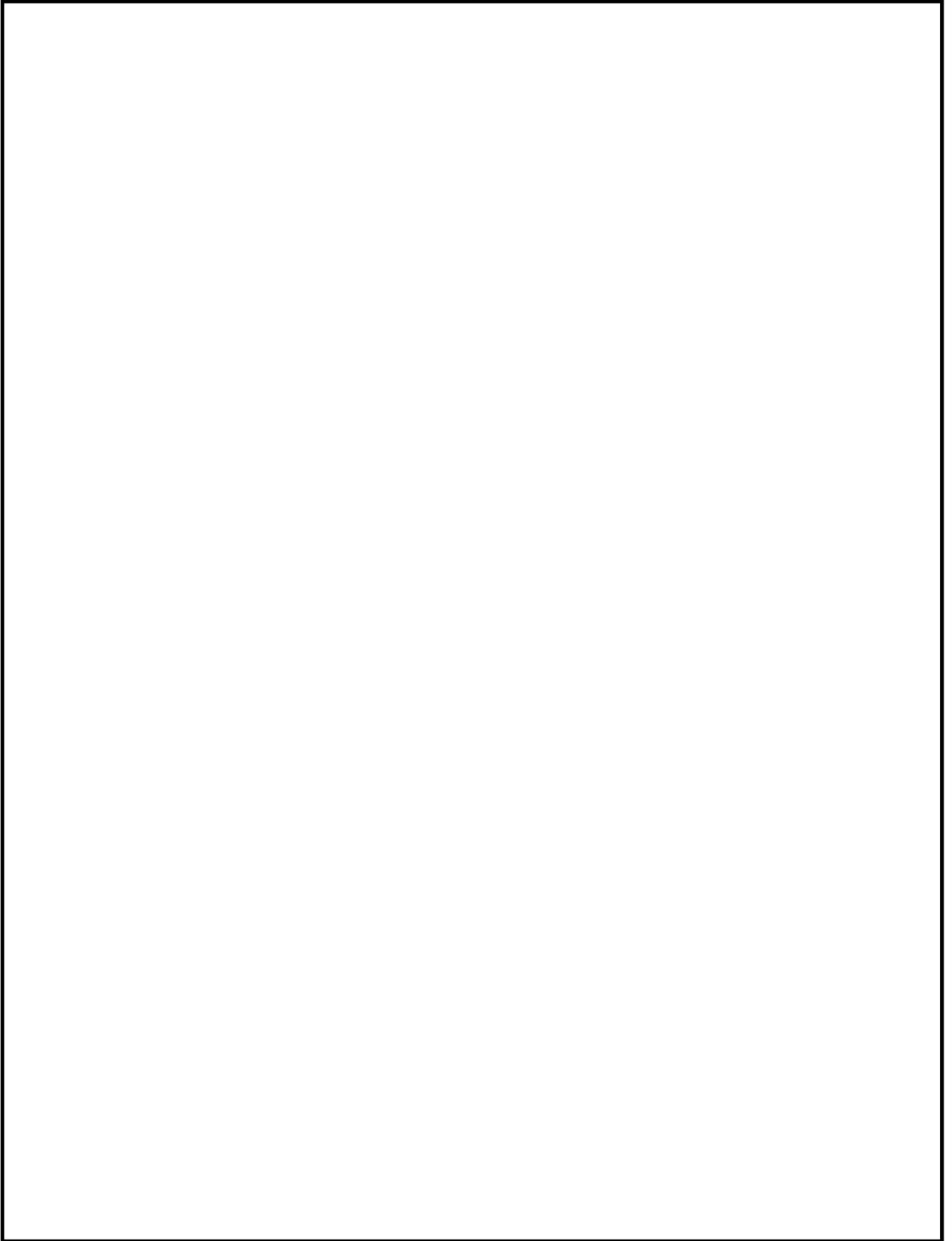
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10 USC 424



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10 USC 424

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

Subject: Chairman's View 01 May 09

[Chairman's View 01 May.pdf](#)

<<Chairman's View 01 May.pdf>>

The latest Chairman's View attached - highlights the Chairman's recent trip to Egypt, Turkey, Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

Tom Neis

Tom Neis
Public Affairs
Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff
The Pentagon, Room 2D932
703-697-7649

CHAIRMAN'S VIEW*A summary of key themes, messages and talking points*

May 01, 2009

The Message

Last week, the Chairman conducted a 7-day trip in conjunction with the Spring USO Tour to the Middle East and South Asia. Highlighting this trip were stops made in Afghanistan and Iraq where he visited with many of the U.S. forces located there. He also conducted several meetings with key civilian and military leaders. Links to available transcripts from this trip are located here:

Afghanistan: <http://www.jcs.mil/speech.aspx?ID=1164>,

Egypt: <http://www.jcs.mil/speech.aspx?ID=1162> and

<http://www.jcs.mil/speech.aspx?ID=1163>. PODCASTs of DoD interviews with the Chairman are available here: <http://www.dodvclips.mil/>

AFGHANISTAN/PAKISTAN REGION

Recent gains made by the Taliban in Pakistan are cause for great concern. The Pakistani military leadership clearly understands the seriousness of this threat and the need for them to do more to counter it. We stand ready to provide them more assistance as they request it.

We are encouraged by recent action taken by the Pakistani military against extremists in Buner.

A goal of the new strategy is to be able to effectively follow-through in a "clear, hold, and build" concept. Accomplishing this will allow the Afghan people to gain confidence in their own ability to provide security and governance, both of which are critical in order for the Afghan people to succeed.

The Afghan people are the center of the gravity. Improvements to the infrastructure in many areas are noticeable, but must increase greatly in order to achieve a lasting effect. The Provincial Reconstruction Teams are at the center of this effort to improve infrastructure, but we need a commensurate increase in civilian expertise and capacity.

From the Podium

From the Chairman's interviews with NBC's *The Today Show* - taped in Afghanistan: <http://today.msnbc.msn.com/id/26184891/#30384604>

Regarding troop strength in Afghanistan and their security forces:

"I think we know enough in terms of what it's going to take. There are limits on how many troops we can provide to make a difference."

"These next two years, I think, will tell that tale. There will be a significant engagement for a period of time. We're not going to turn it around and succeed in the next 24 months."

"They [Afghan people] have to take over the security for their nation. That's the only way we're successful in the long run."

Headlines

In Remote Afghan Province, Mullen Finds Daunting Need
[Washington Post](#)

Holbrooke telephones Zardari, Mullen meets Pakistani top brass
[Thandian News](#)

Afghanistan: Top US military officer honors troops
[Associated Press](#)

Mullen vows to fulfill defense needs of Pakistan's security forces
[Islamabad Weekly Pulse](#)

Pakistan deploys troops in Taliban-held district
[Reuters](#)

Mullen Tours Forward Outposts in Afghanistan
[AFPS](#)

Mullen, Gates Share Deep Concern Over Pakistan
[AFPS](#)

Taliban's Strength in Pakistan Frustrates Chairman
[AFPS](#)

Mullen, Gates Share Deep Concern Over Pakistan
[AFPS](#)

Mullen Cautions Iraq on Arab-Kurd Confrontations
[AFPS](#)