



NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

111 SOUTH GEORGE MASON DRIVE
ARLINGTON VA 22204-1373

Director, Army National Guard Letter to the Force

Subject: 2016 Holiday Message

Soldiers and Leaders of the Army National Guard:

As members of the Army National Guard, you are ever-vigilant and dedicate immense time to keeping our country secure and our communities safe. More than 10,000 Army National Guard Soldiers are mobilized and away from their families during this holiday season.

Our men and women are serving in Afghanistan, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Honduras, Iraq, Kosovo, Kuwait, and here at home. Keep them in your thoughts and prayers, and look out for their families until they return. To our deployed Soldiers, thank you for everything you do! Our country appreciates your sacrifice.

The holidays are a time for enjoying family, and we encourage every Soldier to spend as much time as possible with loved ones. We especially appreciate the sacrifice of those who give the most – our families. On behalf of the Army National Guard, we want to thank the families of our Citizen Soldiers. You endure many nights while your loved ones are away from home, and you shoulder more of the burden during their absence. We cannot thank you enough.

While the holidays are a time of joy and celebration, they can bring stress for some. Take a minute to check on your battle buddies over the holiday season. Leaders, check your Soldiers and make sure you know how to get them the help they need, if they need it.

In this season of joy, share the warmth of family and friends all the way into the New Year. Safe and happy holidays to you all!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Kepner".

Christopher S. Kepner
Command Sergeant Major
Army National Guard

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Panos".

Peter T. Panos
Command Chief Warrant Officer
Army National Guard

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy J. Kadavy".

Timothy J. Kadavy
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
Director, Army National Guard

