



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20340-5100



U-12-1551/CE

JUL 16 2012

The Honorable Rob Portman
338 Russell Senate Office Building
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Portman:

As July 24—my final day as Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA)—nears, I thank you for all of your help and assistance during the past 3 years. I am grateful for the support you have given to the men and women of DIA in this challenging national security environment and the trust you continue to place in DIA.

With your help during these past 3 years, the men and women of DIA have worked tirelessly to ensure DIA is better positioned to meet the ever-changing requirements of national policymakers, combatant commanders, and the warfighter. We have directed DIA's efforts toward the greatest national security challenges confronting the United States, including Afghanistan-Pakistan, Iraq, Iran, and transnational terrorism. We are sharpening DIA's efforts to prevent strategic surprise elsewhere around the globe while reinforcing and strengthening DIA's ability to surge in support of contingency operations and crises. With Congress' support, DIA has made important investments in securing and improving its secure information technology and in training and retaining the Agency's most important asset, the men and women of DIA.

In conjunction with DIA's 50th anniversary events last year, DIA set in motion the 2012–2017 Defense Intelligence Agency Strategy, which will strengthen and unite the Agency's core capabilities and better focus the Agency on warning, core mission areas, strategic partnerships, and performance accountability. The DIA Strategy emphasizes best practices to support warfighters and policymakers in an era of persistent international conflict and enduring U.S. fiscal challenges, setting the path toward achieving the strategy's major theme of "One Mission—One Team—One Agency."

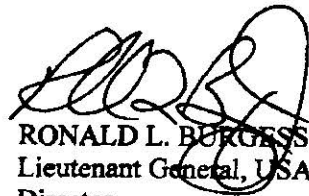
Looking ahead, I have great hopes for the Defense Clandestine Service, which will provide enhanced collection capabilities in support of the highest priority intelligence requirements and will inform the decisions of the Director of National Intelligence, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretaries of the Military Departments, and the Combatant Commanders.

As I depart DIA and reflect on my 38 years of military service, I can say without hesitation that protecting our Nation is a team effort. From the President and Congress, to our commanders and soldiers in the field, to the junior intelligence analysts on the watch floor as well as those deployed alongside our troops, everyone charged with protecting our national security plays an important role; I have been honored to serve with so many dedicated patriots. Among these

national security professionals is Lieutenant General (LTG) Michael Flynn, USA, who will be installed as the 18th Director of DIA upon my retirement. I have every confidence that LTG Flynn, through his background and experience, will continue to position DIA to meet the challenges of the future.

Over these years, I have very much enjoyed my dealings with Congress and you. I thank you for your support both professionally and personally. I hope that you will continue to feel free to reach out to me in the future whenever I may be of assistance.

Very respectfully,



RONALD L. BURGESS, JR.
Lieutenant General, USA
Director