



Hagel Praises Army's Strength, Resilience

DoD News

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel commended the Army today for its contributions to national defense over the last 13 years of conflict and noted that demand for the things the Army does for the nation will not diminish during the period of uncertainty and change that lies ahead. Speaking during the Association of the United States Army's annual conference, Hagel said this is a time of great transition for the Army as the U.S. military responsibly ends its combat role in Afghanistan and transitions to a train-advise-and-assist mission.... "As the Army emerges from over 13 years of large-scale combat operations -- the longest in its history -- it faces new challenges," Hagel said. "The world's becoming more volatile, less predictable, and, in many ways, more threatening at the same time our defense budgets are declining."

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Military Families Hear from Army Leaders

AUSA

Secretary of the Army John McHugh, Army Chief of Staff General Ray Odierno and Sergeant Major of the Army Raymond Chandler participated in a town hall discussion during the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) military family forums. Secretary McHugh shared with military families – attending in person and virtually – that “caring for Army families is mission essential” and that the Army’s “top two priorities are making sure soldiers are properly trained and equipped, and taking care of their families.” General Odierno said we have to “continue to develop programs that allow soldiers and families to thrive, not just survive, while they’re in the Army.” SMA Chandler commented that the Army will “have to expand our horizons beyond an Army solution for every single challenge that we’re presented.” He added, “In a diminishing resources climate, we are not going to be able to solve all the problems.”

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Save Our Benefit Participates in Army Conference

AUSA

The Association of the United States Army (AUSA) Family Readiness Directorate and the National Military Family Association shared Save Our Benefit information during the AUSA Annual Meeting and Exhibition. The Coalition also participated in the AUSA Family Forums and Veterans Pavilion.