



## ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

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January 14, 2013

General Gordon R. Sullivan  
United States Army (Ret.)  
President

The Honorable John Boehner  
United States House of Representatives  
1011 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Boehner:

On behalf of the membership of the Association of the United States Army, I write to urge you to enact legislation that will prevent triggering sequestration in March, 2013 as it pertains to the Department of Defense (DoD).

Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta stated the problem clearly when he said, "The simple fact is that the fiscal uncertainty has become a very serious threat to our national security." Recent actions by DoD leaders in anticipation of possible sequestration show the devastating effect it would have on readiness and our military and federal civilian personnel.

Among the measures authorized are a civilian hiring freeze; reduction of base operating funds to include reduction of flying hours, steaming days, and vehicle miles; curtailment of facilities maintenance, travel and training funding; and cancellation of ship, aviation and ground depot-level maintenance activities.

In a time of peace, this process would be problematic - In a time of war, it becomes exponentially more difficult. Allowing the specter of sequestration to linger, forces DoD to compromise its capability to support the national defense strategy.

With sequestration less than six weeks away, I urge you to direct immediate effort to a solution for this potentially devastating blow to our defense forces.

Sincerely,



GORDON R. SULLIVAN  
General, USA Retired

GRS/ wbl