



THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
CHIEF OF STAFF, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON DC



DEC 23 2013

To the Airmen of the United States Air Force:

As you gather for celebrations with family and friends this holiday season, we encourage you to enjoy every moment with your loved ones. We cannot thank you enough for your service and for the dedication and perseverance you and your families demonstrate every day.

We owe a debt of gratitude to all of the men and women who serve our Nation, but our thoughts particularly go out to our Airmen and fellow service members spending this special time of year far from those they love most. We look forward to their safe return from deployments for combat operations and other duties around the world, but until they do, please reach out to the family members and loved ones who miss them.

Let us also pause to remember our fallen Airmen and their families who have sacrificed so much for our country. Please take the opportunity to personally thank and support our Gold Star families as they prepare to spend the holidays without their loved ones.

We are enormously privileged to serve with you in the world's finest Air Force and look forward to a great year ahead in 2014. We wish you and yours all the best during this holiday season and throughout the New Year.

Handwritten signature of Deborah Lee James in cursive.

Deborah Lee James  
Secretary of the Air Force

Handwritten signature of Mark A. Welsh III in cursive.

Mark A. Welsh III  
General, USAF  
Chief of Staff

Handwritten signature of James A. Cody in cursive.

James A. Cody  
Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force