



SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
CHIEFS OF THE MILITARY SERVICES
COMMANDER, U.S. SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND
CHIEF OF THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Warrior Games 2015

It is my pleasure to share with you that this year the Department of Defense (DoD) will host the DoD Warrior Games 2015, an international military Service sporting competition for wounded, ill, and injured Service members from the U.S. Armed Forces and our task force partners from the United Kingdom (UK).

Since 2009, this annual event featuring nearly 250 athletes has been hosted by the United States Olympic Committee in Colorado Springs, Colorado. This year, for the first time, the Warrior Games will be held in the National Capital Region, at Marine Corps Base Quantico, Virginia, from 19 – 28 June 2015. In the coming weeks, additional information will be released about DoD Warrior Games 2015, the competitors, and other related events.

Each of the Armed Services, U.S. Special Operations Command, and a UK military team will have competitors at Warrior Games 2015. While events are still being finalized, previous Warrior Games included wheelchair basketball, sitting volleyball, track and field, archery, swimming, cycling, rugby, and shooting.

The Warrior Games are a pinnacle event where our wounded, ill, and injured Service members and our allies are able to demonstrate all they have overcome to participate on a competitive stage through our adaptive sports and rehabilitation programs. These men and women are an inspiration to all, and I have seen firsthand how adaptive athletics have helped our Service members develop both independence and confidence. Similarly, their families and communities should take pride in the support they have contributed to their athlete's recovery.

I anticipate each of you will be involved in the planning process at some level and look forward to an event that, in addition to honoring wounded, ill, and injured Service members, will make us all proud to be members of the Department of Defense.

Ash Carter

