USA

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY OF LABOR

SUBJECT: Safety, Health and Return-to-Employment (SHARE) Initiative

DoD wholeheartedly endorses the SHARE initiative and reduction goals. I echo the President's sentiment that most, if not all, workplace injuries and illnesses can be avoided. Reducing accidents is important to DoD's bottom line - operational readiness.

In May 2003, I challenged the Department of Defense to reduce the number of mishaps and accident rates by 50% in the next two years. We are making good progress in achieving that goal. I have established a senior leader Defense Safety Oversight Council to oversee our efforts. SHARE is complimentary to our initiative to achieve continual, long-term improvement in our safety and health performance. I will ask OSHA to partner with us as we strive to exceed the initial SHARE reduction targets.

I have asked Ray DuBois, the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Installations and Environment and Designated Agency Safety and Health Official (DASHO), to implement SHARE and make sure the targets are an important element of our safety and health management system. I will monitor progress on SHARE regularly.

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