HEADQUARTERS
COMBINED JOINT TASK FORCE SEVEN
BAGHDAD, IRAQ
APO AE 09302-1400

CJTF7-S

FEB 04 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Announcement of Operation Guardian Angel

1. As we execute the relief in place for OIF-1 and OIF-2 units, in addition to continuing the R&R Program, our forces will take leave to reunite with family and friends. Post combat and R&R reintegration can be a difficult and challenging event. It is also a time when our service members are at high risk for accidental injury. Over indulgence, motor vehicle and recreational accidents all too often take the life of one of our troops.

2. Our challenge is to care for the well-being and safety of our service members, whether they are here in Iraq or home with family. While on leave, we entrust their care to their family and friends. I am asking those families to assist in caring for our troops by participating in a program we call "Operation Guardian Angel".

3. "Operation Guardian Angel" is a program designed to encourage a family member or friend to adopt a service member and provide a safety net for them while they are on leave. We will recruit guardian angels through a comprehensive media and public service campaign. The Guardian Angel provides safety oversight of the service member helping to ensure their safe return to duty.

4. My intent is to initiate this as a US Army program and as the program gains momentum, expand it to include other services and coalition forces. Through the US Army Safety Center, participants will be encouraged to access a web site to track progress and register personal information about being a Guardian Angel.

5. The CJTF-7 Safety Office will work with the appropriate staff, other DOD agencies, and Coalition Forces Liaisons to implement "Operation Guardian Angel". Points of contact for this action is the CJTF-7 Safety office at DSN 318-822-1429, DVNT 302-550-2644.

RICARDO S. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding

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