



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-2500

JAN 21 2005

SPECIAL OPERATIONS/
LOW-INTENSITY CONFLICT

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
CHIEF, NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

SUBJECT: Red Ribbon Week Activities

In order to maintain combat readiness, it is imperative that Department of Defense military personnel, civilians, and their families remain drug-free. One of our most successful drug demand reduction efforts has been to elevate anti-drug education during the national Red Ribbon Week. In order to raise public awareness of the Department's commitment to a drug-free military community, I strongly encourage installations, commands, and units to participate in Red Ribbon Week activities this year.

Red Ribbon Week is a national observance that occurs annually from October 23-31. This nationwide celebration has become a major force for raising public awareness and mobilizing communities to combat alcohol, drug, and tobacco use. The Department has officially participated in this event since 1990 with the aim to reduce drug abuse among its members and their families. Please join with us in this important event.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Beth Kong".

Mary Beth Kong
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for
Counternarcotics