



PERSONNEL AND
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OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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FEB 29 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR: SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: 2016 Department of Defense (DoD) Women's History Month Observance

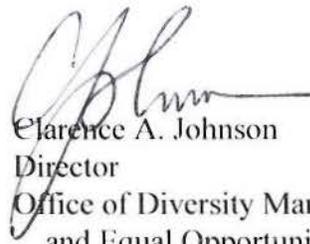
The Department of Defense (DoD) joins the nation in the celebration of Women's History Month, observed during March. The theme of this year's observance is "Working to Form a More Perfect Union: Honoring Women in Public Service and Government." This theme honors women who have shaped our nation's history and its future through their service and leadership in military and government.

The contributions of women to the United States are omnipresent. Women work in all facets of American life and have created a legacy that opens the door to possibility for many generations to come. From fighting for equality to breaking barriers, women have resolutely overcome many obstacles and discrimination as they continue to fully realize their potential.

Women continue to play an integral role across the DoD. They have served with distinction in every war our nation has fought, and continue to secure our nation's defense through their professionalism, bravery, and sacrifice. The years ahead will be historic for women and for the Department. The decision to open all military occupations to women is a significant step in providing women the opportunity to fully contribute to the DoD mission.

During Women's History Month, we celebrate innumerable intrepid women for the victories won, and we continue our work to build a country and a Department where our force of the future – men and women alike – have equal opportunities to reach their full potential.

DoD Components are encouraged to recognize and celebrate Women's History Month. Mr. Norvel Dillard, Office of Diversity Management and Equal Opportunity, is the DoD point of contact. He may be reached at (703) 614-3397, or norvel.l.dillard.civ@mail.mil.


Clarence A. Johnson
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