MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Military Saves Campaign

1. To kick-off the 2013 Military Saves Campaign, the Department of Defense has designated 25 February through 2 March 2013 as Military Saves Week. As part of the larger nationwide America Saves Campaign, Military Saves is conducted in cooperation with the Consumer Federation of America, one of the Department of Defense's official financial readiness non-profit partners.

2. While the Military Saves Campaign is a yearlong effort, Military Saves Week is an opportunity for our military community to come together with federal, state and local resources including military banks and credit unions to focus on the financial readiness of military members and their Families to help them reduce debt and save for the future.

3. We ask commanders to commit to a goal of financial growth amongst our Army Families. The America Saves slogan, "Start Small, Think Big," is shared by Military Saves and promotes the long-term benefits of saving small amounts of money each month. Commanders are encouraged to show their support by signing a "Command Proclamation in Support of Military Saves Week" and to endorse local events organized by approved resources such as the Army Community Service Financial Readiness Program, unit Command Financial Specialists, installation Public Affairs Offices, installation Financial Institutions, and other approved financial organizations.

4. Soldiers can review www.militarysaves.org, take the pledge to save, and attend training in the military community. Soldiers are also encouraged to explore multiple savings options, including the Thrift Savings Plan and for deploying Soldiers the Military Savings Deposit Program, where they can earn 10 percent interest on their investment.

5. Engaging our Army spouses is also critical as they play a vital role in maintaining financial discipline and stability within their Families. Furthermore, by learning good financial habits early in life, our children will strengthen their financial fitness for the future.

6. We wish you great success for the 2013 Military Saves Campaign; the 2013 theme is "Set a Goal, Make a Plan, Save Automatically."

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