



THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

7 March 2013

Dear Secretary Hagel,

I would like to express my sincere congratulations on your appointment as Secretary of Defense of the United States of America.

Your long-standing career in public service and vast experience in the field of international peace and security provides you with an ideal background to address the urgent global challenges of our times. In particular, I welcome the strong support for international cooperation that you have demonstrated during your political career.

On a more personal note, I fondly recall attending the Atlantic Council's 50th anniversary dinner last May in Washington, D.C., at which I had the honour of receiving the Council's Distinguished International Leadership Award. Thank you again for your role in making that recognition possible and for making the Council such an important voice in the international arena.

At this time of global transition and test, there is a growing need for a stronger partnership between the United Nations and the United States in the field of peace and security. I look forward to working with you to advance the goals and values we both hold dear.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

With my warmest congratulations and esteem,

Ban Ki-moon

BAN Ki-moon

His Excellency
Mr. Chuck Hagel
Secretary of Defense of
the United States of America
Washington, D.C.

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ORIGINAL DISPATCHES