

OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

2000 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-2000

January 12, 2021

Acting Secretary of Defense Pentagon Washington, DC 20500

Dear Acting Secretary Miller,

Pursuant to the Memorandum for Presidential Appointees regarding Letters of Resignation dated January 7, 2021, I hereby tender my resignation as performing the duties of Under Secretary of Defense for Policy to the Department of Defense, effective January 14, 2021.

I am grateful to have been given the opportunity to serve again in the Department of Defense. With 28 years in the United States Army as a paratrooper in the 82<sup>nd</sup> and 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Divisions, and with operational and combat deployments to Haiti, Bosnia, Croatia, Panama, Kosovo, and Afghanistan, it has been a privilege to serve my country both in and out of uniform.

The nation continues to face numerous national security challenges, but due to the Department's efforts, I truly believe that the nation is more secure and better prepared to address the future security environment. I am proud to have served alongside the civilian and military members of the Policy team as we worked together to counter China and Russia in Great Power Competition, counter violent extremism, rebalance our deployed forces, increase burden-sharing, provide critical and life-saving support to the COVID-19 fight, expand security cooperation efforts, and implement a global plan for reassuring allies and partners.

As a military veteran and public servant that served at the local, state, and federal levels, the opportunity to perform the duties of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy has been the greatest privilege of my career. I leave behind a dedicated and professional team of Policy experts that are laser focused on the Nation's security. I am humbled by the opportunity to have served in this capacity in order to once again support and defend the constitution of the United States of America.

Sincerely,

Vare

Anthony J. Tata