

AFR 2 2009

The Honorable Carl Levin Chairman, Committee on Armed Services United States Senate Washington, DC 20510-6050

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to forward the enclosed report required by Section 3307(e) of the United States Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law (PL) 110-28) and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 (PL 110-181), Section 1648(e). Section 3307(e) requires the Department of Defense (DoD) to conduct inspections no later than 180 days after enactment of the Act, and annually thereafter, of military treatment facilities (MTFs) and military quarters housing medical hold (MH) and medical holdover (MHO) personnel. Section 1648(e) requires the DoD to submit a report to Congress on the actions taken to establish and implement standards for MTFs and military quarters housing both MH and MHO, and an assessment of each facility based on these standards.

As you can see from this report, the DoD historically maintains standards for the operation and maintenance of MTFs, and established standards for MH and MHO housing on September 18, 2007. The first rounds of inspections based on these standards were conducted within the required timeframe. The inspection teams determined that all MTFs providing care to Wounded Warriors, and quarters housing MH and MHO personnel meet acceptable standards for maintenance and operation.

Thank you for your continued support of this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

David S. C. Chu

Enclosure: As stated

CC:

The Honorable John McCain Ranking Member



AFR 2 2008

The Honorable Ben Nelson Chairman, Subcommittee on Personnel Committee on Armed Services United States Senate Washington, DC 20510-6050

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to forward the enclosed report required by Section 3307(e) of the United States Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law (PL) 110-28) and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 (PL 110-181), Section 1648(e). Section 3307(e) requires the Department of Defense (DoD) to conduct inspections no later than 180 days after enactment of the Act, and annually thereafter, of military treatment facilities (MTFs) and military quarters housing medical hold (MH) and medical holdover (MHO) personnel. Section 1648(e) requires the DoD to submit a report to Congress on the actions taken to establish and implement standards for MTFs and military quarters housing both MH and MHO, and an assessment of each facility based on these standards.

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Sincerely,

David S. C. Chu

Enclosure: As stated

cc:

The Honorable Lindsey O. Graham Ranking Member



AFR 2 2009

The Honorable Ike Skelton Chairman, Committee on Armed Services U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-6035

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to forward the enclosed report required by Section 3307(e) of the United States Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law (PL) 110-28) and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 (PL 110-181), Section 1648(e). Section 3307(e) requires the Department of Defense (DoD) to conduct inspections no later than 180 days after enactment of the Act, and annually thereafter, of military treatment facilities (MTFs) and military quarters housing medical hold (MH) and medical holdover (MHO) personnel. Section 1648(e) requires the DoD to submit a report to Congress on the actions taken to establish and implement standards for MTFs and military quarters housing both MH and MHO, and an assessment of each facility based on these standards.

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Sincerely,

David S. C. Chu

Enclosure: As stated

cc:

The Honorable Duncan Hunter Ranking Member



AFR 2 200

The Honorable Susan Davis
Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Military Personnel
Committee on Armed Services
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6035

Dear Madam Chairwoman:

I am pleased to forward the enclosed report required by Section 3307(e) of the United States Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law (PL) 110-28) and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 (PL 110-181), Section 1648(e). Section 3307(e) requires the Department of Defense (DoD) to conduct inspections no later than 180 days after enactment of the Act, and annually thereafter, of military treatment facilities (MTFs) and military quarters housing medical hold (MH) and medical holdover (MHO) personnel. Section 1648(e) requires the DoD to submit a report to Congress on the actions taken to establish and implement standards for MTFs and military quarters housing both MH and MHO, and an assessment of each facility based on these standards.

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David S. C. Chu

Enclosure: As stated

cc:

The Honorable John McHugh Ranking Member



AFR 2 2008 ·

The Honorable Robert C. Byrd Chairman, Committee on Appropriations United States Senate Washington, DC 20510-6025

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to forward the enclosed report required by Section 3307(e) of the United States Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law (PL) 110-28) and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 (PL 110-181), Section 1648(e). Section 3307(e) requires the Department of Defense (DoD) to conduct inspections no later than 180 days after enactment of the Act, and annually thereafter, of military treatment facilities (MTFs) and military quarters housing medical hold (MH) and medical holdover (MHO) personnel. Section 1648(e) requires the DoD to submit a report to Congress on the actions taken to establish and implement standards for MTFs and military quarters housing both MH and MHO, and an assessment of each facility based on these standards.

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Enclosure: As stated

cc:

The Honorable Thad Cochran Ranking Member



AFR 2 2008

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye Chairman, Subcommittee on Defense Committee on Appropriations United States Senate Washington, DC 20510-6028

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to forward the enclosed report required by Section 3307(e) of the United States Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law (PL) 110-28) and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 (PL 110-181), Section 1648(e). Section 3307(e) requires the Department of Defense (DoD) to conduct inspections no later than 180 days after enactment of the Act, and annually thereafter, of military treatment facilities (MTFs) and military quarters housing medical hold (MH) and medical holdover (MHO) personnel. Section 1648(e) requires the DoD to submit a report to Congress on the actions taken to establish and implement standards for MTFs and military quarters housing both MH and MHO, and an assessment of each facility based on these standards.

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David S. C. Chu

Enclosure: As stated

cc:

The Honorable Ted Stevens Ranking Member



AFR 2 2008

The Honorable David R. Obey Chairman, Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-6015

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to forward the enclosed report required by Section 3307(e) of the United States Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law (PL) 110-28) and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 (PL 110-181), Section 1648(e). Section 3307(e) requires the Department of Defense (DoD) to conduct inspections no later than 180 days after enactment of the Act, and annually thereafter, of military treatment facilities (MTFs) and military quarters housing medical hold (MH) and medical holdover (MHO) personnel. Section 1648(e) requires the DoD to submit a report to Congress on the actions taken to establish and implement standards for MTFs and military quarters housing both MH and MHO, and an assessment of each facility based on these standards.

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David S. C. Chu

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Enclosure: As stated

cc:

The Honorable Jerry Lewis Ranking Member



APR 2 TH

The Honorable John P. Murtha Chairman, Subcommittee on Defense Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-6018

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to forward the enclosed report required by Section 3307(e) of the United States Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law (PL) 110-28) and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 (PL 110-181), Section 1648(e). Section 3307(e) requires the Department of Defense (DoD) to conduct inspections no later than 180 days after enactment of the Act, and annually thereafter, of military treatment facilities (MTFs) and military quarters housing medical hold (MH) and medical holdover (MHO) personnel. Section 1648(e) requires the DoD to submit a report to Congress on the actions taken to establish and implement standards for MTFs and military quarters housing both MH and MHO, and an assessment of each facility based on these standards.

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Sincerely,

David S. C. Chu

Enclosure:

As stated

cc:

The Honorable C.W. Bill Young Ranking Member



AFR 2 2008

The Honorable Chet Edwards
Chairman, Subcommittee on Military Construction,
Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U. S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6018

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to forward the enclosed report required by Section 3307(e) of the United States Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law (PL) 110-28) and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 (PL 110-181), Section 1648(e). Section 3307(e) requires the Department of Defense (DoD) to conduct inspections no later than 180 days after enactment of the Act, and annually thereafter, of military treatment facilities (MTFs) and military quarters housing medical hold (MH) and medical holdover (MHO) personnel. Section 1648(e) requires the DoD to submit a report to Congress on the actions taken to establish and implement standards for MTFs and military quarters housing both MH and MHO, and an assessment of each facility based on these standards.

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Sincerely,

David S. C. Chu

Enclosure: As stated

cc:

The Honorable Zach Wamp Ranking Member



AFR 2 2008

The Honorable Tim Johnson
Chairman, Subcommittee on Military Construction,
Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-6028

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to forward the enclosed report required by Section 3307(e) of the United States Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law (PL) 110-28) and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 (PL 110-181), Section 1648(e). Section 3307(e) requires the Department of Defense (DoD) to conduct inspections no later than 180 days after enactment of the Act, and annually thereafter, of military treatment facilities (MTFs) and military quarters housing medical hold (MH) and medical holdover (MHO) personnel. Section 1648(e) requires the DoD to submit a report to Congress on the actions taken to establish and implement standards for MTFs and military quarters housing both MH and MHO, and an assessment of each facility based on these standards.

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Enclosure:

As stated

cc:

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison Ranking Member

Office of the Secretary of Defense

REPORT TO CONGRESS

Inspection of Military Medical Treatment Facilities and Military Quarters Housing Medical Hold and Medical Holdover Personnel



Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness)

March 2008

Report to Congress

Inspections of Military Medical Treatment Facilities, Military Quarters Housing Medical Hold and Medical Holdover Personnel

Executive Summary

I am pleased to forward the enclosed report required by Section 3307(e) of the United States Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law (PL) 110-28) and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (PL 110-181), Section 1648(e). Section 3307(e) requires the DoD to conduct inspections no later than 180 days after enactment of the Act, and annually thereafter, of military medical treatment facilities (MTFs) and military quarters housing medical hold (MH¹) and medical holdover (MHO¹) personnel. Section 1648(e) requires the DoD to submit a report to Congress on the actions taken to establish and implement standards for MTFs and military quarters housing MH/MHO personnel, and an assessment of each facility based on these standards.

The Department maintains MTF design standards in the Unified Facilities Criteria (UFC) document, 4-510-01. These standards are available for public use in the National Institute of Building Science's Whole Building Design Guide publications. When supplemented with the standards established by the Joint Commission (TJC) for accreditation of hospital organizations, the Department can positively assert that it maintains standards for the operation and maintenance of MTFs. DoD standards for medical hold and holdover housing were established by a memorandum from the Deputy Secretary of Defense on September 18, 2007. (See Appendix-1)

The first rounds of inspections based on these standards were conducted within the required timeframe. The inspection teams determined that all MTFs providing care to Wounded Warriors, and quarters housing MH/MHO personnel meet acceptable standards for maintenance and operation.

¹ The Military Services use their own terms for consolidated MH/MHO units: Warrior in Transition Brigades/Battalions/Companies (Army), Medical Hold Companies (Navy), Wounded Warrior Regiment/Battalions (Marine Corps), and Patient Squadrons (Air Force). Accordingly, for simplicity and continuity with applicable statutes, this report will refer to all Service members in such units as "MH/MHO personnel".

The Military Services expended more than \$125 million in Operations and Maintenance (O&M) funds in FY2007 for urgent corrective actions to Military quarters. Continued support for this effort is reflected in the planned expenditure of \$141 million of FY 2008 O&M funds. Furthermore, the approved FY 2008 Military Construction legislation included \$53 million for two new Wounded Warrior barracks for the Marine Corps.

Report to Congress

Inspections of Military Medical Treatment Facilities, Military Quarters Housing Medical Hold and Medical Holdover Personnel

Since the first casualties from the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT), the Department of Defense (DoD) has focused on the need to provide adequate facilities for medical treatment and housing of Wounded Warriors. The importance of this effort was highlighted by Secretary of Defense Gates on May 2, 2007, "... Our nation is truly blessed that so many talented and patriotic young people have stepped forward to serve. They deserve the very best facilities and care to recuperate from their injuries and ample assistance to navigate the next step in their lives, and that is what we intend to give them. Apart from the war itself, this department and I have no higher priority."

To assess how well the DoD facilities were supporting Wounded Warriors, Congress added Section 3307 to the U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007 (Public Law 110-28, May 25, 2007). This section requires the DoD to conduct inspections no later than 180 days after enactment of the Act, and annually thereafter, of the following DoD facilities:

- Each military medical treatment facility (MTF)
- Each military quarters housing medical hold (MH) personnel
- Each military quarters housing medical holdover (MHO) personnel

Congress added Section 1648(e) to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 (PL 110-181). Section 1648(e) requires the DoD to submit a report to Congress on the actions taken to establish and implement standards for MTFs and military quarters housing MH/MHO personnel, and an assessment of each facility based on these standards.

According to the legislation, the inspections are required to ensure that the above facilities meet generally acceptable standards for operations and maintenance (O&M). Furthermore, the legislation requires that when a deficiency is identified as a result of a facility inspection, the respective military component must identify a plan for corrective action and re-inspect each facility identified to have a deficiency, not less than every 180 days thereafter, or until that deficiency is corrected.

This report summarizes findings from the required facility inspections and discusses future facility plans. It is a product of an Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) chaired working group prepared under the direction of the DoD Installations Capabilities Council, which is chaired by the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Installations and Environment (DUSD (I&E)). The DoD working group is composed of members from the Military Services and various OSD offices. Representatives of the OSD accompanied the Military services on various inspections of MTFs and Military housing to observe the application of the inspection protocols.

This report is divided into two distinct parts as follows:

Part 1: MTFs

Part 2: Military quarters housing MH/MHO personnel

Part 1: MTFs

All inpatient MTFs are inspected based on the standards used by The Joint Commission (TJC) for the accreditation of healthcare organizations, which accredits healthcare facilities for both the public and private sector. Currently all the DoD MTFs comply with and are accredited by the TJC. In addition, all the DoD facilities comply with the Americans with Disability Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) prevalent at the time of initial construction or after major renovation.

In addition to their normal TJC survey and at the direction of the Congress, all MTFs were evaluated in each of several categories to include:

- 1) Building Systems and Envelope: Subgroups include roof, exterior building envelope, stairs, ramps, elevated walks, elevators, plumbing, heating, ventilation and air conditioning, electrical and lighting, communications and special systems.
- 2) *Life/Fire Safety:* Subgroups include means of egress, emergency lighting and exit signs, generators and automatic transfer switches, and fire protection.
- 3) *Interior Conditions*: Subgroups include signage, floors, walls and ceilings, and doors.
 - 4) Site/Medical Campus: Subgroups include parking lots and sidewalks.
 - 5) Americans with Disability Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS): Not included are ADAAG/UFAS deficiencies that are "grand-fathered" i.e., that do not need to be remedied until a major construction or renovation is warranted.

Results of the MTF Inspections

Based on the inspections conducted by the Military Services, the MTFs (Table 1) were determined to be in compliance with the above criteria and met the TJC standards. Routine deficiencies that were corrected by a service call were not listed. No deficiencies were identified that would jeopardize the accreditation of the MTFs or posed an immediate danger to the patients at these facilities. However, deferred maintenance was identified and is being funded as part of the routine O&M program. Deferred maintenance is the practice of postponing prudent but non-essential repairs.

In accordance with the provisions of the ADA, deficiencies existing at the time or prior to the passage of the ADA were exempt from compliance; therefore, the Department is only required to be in compliance with current ADA standards when accomplishing a replacement or major renovation of a MTF. Some of the

projects in POM FY 2010-2015 will correct these ADA deficiencies during major renovation and/or replacement. The following tables summarize the number of MTFs inspected (Table 1) and the costs (Table 2), by Military Service, to bring the MTFs in compliance with the ADA standards currently "grand-fathered" and to correct deferred maintenance.

Table 1: MTFs Inspected

	Number of Facilities			
Component				
Army	161			
Navy/Marine Corps	186			
Air Force	128			
Total	475			

<u>Table 2</u>: <u>Cost to Upgrade MTFs</u> (\$ Millions)

Component	ADA Compliance Upgrades	Deferred Maintenance		
Army	\$1.1	\$38.1		
Navy/Marine Corps	4.8	87.2		
Air Force	8.7	64.0		
Total	\$14.6	\$189.3		

Way Forward

The Department will continue an aggressive inspection of the MTFs on an annual basis to ensure compliance with the TJC, ADAAG, and UFAS, and to identify and accomplish any deferred maintenance, in a continuing and ongoing effort to create and sustain world-class Military medical facilities.

Part 2: Military Quarters Housing Medical Hold and Holdover Personnel

Definitions

To understand the type of quarters inspected for this report, it is necessary to understand the definition of MH and MHO. If a wounded, ill, or injured Service member has a medical condition that is expected to preclude his/her return to full duty for an extended period (generally longer than six months), the Service member is normally placed in an MH status (Active Component) or MHO (Reserve Component (RC)). A RC Service member who becomes wounded, ill, or injured while on Active Duty can be retained on Active Duty to receive treatment at a DoD MTF, or he/she can be returned to inactive duty to receive treatment near their home.

Because they are precluded from full duty, Service members in an MH/MHO status are generally transferred from their parent unit to the MH/MHO units to facilitate their treatment, rehabilitation, or convalescence.

DoD Standards

In compliance with Section 3307(e) of Public Law 110-28, a letter report dated July 17, 2007, was sent to the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the Appropriations and Armed Services Committees stating that the Department would develop minimum uniform standards for Military quarters housing MH/MHO personnel, and would ensure that these standards are in full compliance, as appropriate, with the ADA and the UFAS. These standards were subsequently defined and issued by the Deputy Secretary of Defense on September 18, 2007.

The DoD standard states that the MH/MHO personnel will be assigned or referred to housing that exceeds or meets the applicable quality standards and is appropriate for their medical condition, expected duration of treatment, dependency status (including authorization of a non-medical attendant), and pay grade. The particular housing and associated amenities/services provided are now an integral part of each member's medical treatment plan. Furthermore, the chain of command is responsible, in consultation with the patient and the patient's medical support team and case managers, to validate that each housing unit (e.g., room, module, suite, apartment or house) assigned to a MH/MHO member is adequate in the following three categories for the particular member who is occupying the unit.

- 1. Whether the *assignment* to a specific unit is adequate for the MH in terms of configuration, size and features.
- 2. Whether the building meets *baseline standards* for physical condition and for any support services that may be needed.
- 3. Whether each MH member's housing unit has any *special medical* requirements as determined by the primary care physician, patient, and chain of command.

Housing Solutions

Based on the inspections conducted by each Military Service, all MH/MHO personnel are currently housed in quarters that meet DoD standards. The Military Services are meeting the housing needs of their MH/MHO personnel using a variety of means, including the dispersal of the MH personnel into housing, on and off-installation that met or could easily adapt to meet the individual medical requirement of each Service member. Aggressive actions taken to adapt to requirements included renovating and modernizing existing barracks, lodging, and family housing; and contracting or leasing private sector housing or lodging in the surrounding communities. In support of this housing effort, the Military Services expended more than \$125 million of the O&M funds in FY 2007 for urgent corrective actions. Continued support for this effort is reflected in the planned expenditure of \$141 million of FY 2008 O&M funds.

While the Military Services have reported that the MH/MHO members are housed in quarters that meet the DoD standards, it is also important to note that the Military Services consider much of the existing MH/MHO housing to be only an interim solution. Accordingly, the President's FY 2008 Military Construction budget request included two new Wounded Warrior barracks for the Marine Corps at Camp Pendleton, CA, and Camp Lejeune, NC. Both projects were funded in the FY 2008 National Defense Authorization Act and the FY 2008 Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. The President's FY 2008 Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) Military Construction budget request included seven Army Medical Action Plan (AMAP) projects, two of which had Warrior in Transition barracks: Fort Riley, KS, and Fort Drum, NY. At the time this report was prepared, Congress had not completed action the FY 2008 GWOT MILCON budget request.

Inspection Findings

Table 3 summarizes the Military quarters for MH/MHO personnel that were inspected during this effort. The table captures where MH/MHO personnel

are being housed. It also rolls up the robust funding that has been expended and is being budgeted to improve MH/MHO housing. This effort did not include inspections of the private homes of wounded, ill, or injured Reserve Component members who are now living at home or are undergoing medical treatment at private sector or the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical facilities.

Table 3: Military Quarters Housing Medical Hold Personnel

Funding for

	m . 1	Type of Housing to Outpatient Trea To		•	Repairs, Enhancements, and New Construction (\$ millions)		
Military Service	Total Number of MH/MHO Personnel	Unaccompanied Personnel Housing (UPH)	Family Housing (FH)	Lodging	Privately Owned or Rented	O&M Sum of FY 2007 &FY 2008	Military Construction FY 2008
Army	5,228	2,360	488 ¹	626	1,754	\$261.9	\$70.0°
•	•	•			,		
USMC	137	100	4	0	33	0.5	53.0 ³
Navy	157	155	0	0	2	3.8	0
Air Force	4	0	1	0	3	0	0
DoD Totals	5,526	2,615	493	626	1,792	\$266.2	\$123.0

¹ Includes 348 DoD-owned, 18 leased or contracted, and 122 privatized FH units.

² Included in FY 2008 Global War on Terrorism Supplemental Budget Request

³ Approved as part of the regular FY 2008 MILCON budget