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A Strong Military

The United States military has given a sense of pride to Americans since liberating us from British rule in 1783. As one looks back over the past century, the United States military helped end two world wars that we did not start and defeated the "Evil Empire" during the cold war. Since our entry into WW1 around 90 years ago, our military has been one of the premier forces to be reckoned with around the globe. We solidified our status as the "Arsenal of Democracy" during WW2 by supplying the men, materials, leadership and equipment to defeat fascism. In recent history our well trained, best equipped and technologically advanced military has come to represent the finest fighting force the world has seen since the days of the Roman Empire's Army.

Our nation's premier military status has been accomplished through the ongoing commitment of the American people to support their men and women in the field. Over the last 70 years the majority of the citizens here have willingly carried the tax burden to keep our troops well trained and equipped. With investments in research we have developed cutting edge technology to improve our offensive and defensive capabilities. More importantly we have manufactured and deployed this hi-tech equipment in the field to give our forces the tactical and strategic advantages needed to succeed. As Americans we can be proud of both our military's strength to deter our enemies and the power to win wars when required.

The United States has accomplished a balanced military force through its segregation of our army, navy and air force service branches. Through this organization we have developed a comprehensive arsenal that allows our forces to maintain supremacy over land, air, sea and space. This balanced build-up when coupled with our superior communications and logistics systems is what makes us the world's premier fighting force. But to maintain such a force, our nation needs to continue its long-standing tradition of innovation and a healthy manufacturing base within the borders of our country. Only in this way can we be assured that we can continue to maintain such a force in times of peace and war. We need to stop the endless loss of manufacturing jobs and plant closures that jeopardize our critical ability to provide for ourselves in times of dire need.

Being the largest and strongest military force has led us to be looked upon as the peacekeepers of the world. In many cases, I do not oppose our assistance in these endeavors when accomplished for strategic reasons within our best national interest. Far too often though, we are utilized by the rest of the world as a police force with nobody to send the bill to. I believe the United States should be compensated for the services we provide beyond our share. I also firmly believe our military is best suited to fighting and winning wars and not providing peacekeeping, law enforcement and nation building after the fact. When we provide our military muscle to NATO or U.N. missions, our government must make it clear what it will cost these allies for our services. Our commander in chief also needs to keep command of our forces through the military chain of command and never allow our forces to serve under the command of another nation or group. It is imperative we maintain the sovereignty and control of our forces and that they serve the best interests of our country.



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I have great pride and respect for the men and women serving our country and I am committed to supporting them while in office. By continuing to give them the latest technology built into quality equipment we can help protect each and every one of them when we send them into harms way. By increasing our use of unmanned drones and developing more unmanned applications we can further keep our forces off the front line and more likely to return home to their loved ones. I hope that our nation will continue to support our troops to keep them well trained, well paid and well equipped. This will enable us to maintain an all-volunteer force of individuals that want to serve their country without the need for a draft. Rest assured that in a time of great need, to fight a formidable enemy, our nation's men and women will volunteer at unprecedented rates to serve this great country.

Eric Deaton



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