DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
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TO THE LEADERS
OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY

The Army Readiness Assessment Program (ARAP) is a closed-loop system of unit measurement, improvement, and re-evaluation for battalion level organizations. The Combat Readiness Center (CRC) developed the program for battalion commanders to address the root causes of accidental loss by focusing on organizational climate and culture. Effective 1 February 2006, ARAP will be used as part of the Command Inspection Program for battalion level commanders.

ARAP is simple, practical, and powerful. The simple cycle provides solid data for resourcing and action, while also enabling the evaluation of the effectiveness of those actions once implemented. Within 90 days of a change of command, the new battalion commander administers a web-based unit assessment that takes about 10 minutes per person to complete. The assessment captures unit posture on command and control, standards of performance, accountability, and risk management. After a confidential debrief from a CRC expert, battalion commanders brief their higher chain of command on key results, their intended courses of action, and where they need assistance. Commanders then execute their plan. At mid-tour or twelve months in command, the commander checks unit progress against initial results through a second assessment.

Division and brigade level commanders will have access to aggregate results of the battalions within their command and are expected to use the data to actively manage their formations and prevent accidental loss. Corps, division, and brigade level commanders will mandate the enrollment of their subordinate battalions in conjunction with their changes of command. Battalions can enroll by logging on to https://unitready.army.mil for registration instructions.

When implemented correctly, this metric-based, leader-centric, action-oriented program will improve our units' readiness and preserve our combat power. We are excited about the outcomes that ARAP will yield, and we expect that this program will markedly reduce preventable losses throughout our Army.

Peter J. Schoomaker
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff

Francis J. Harvey
Secretary of the Army

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