THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

1200 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1200

HEALTH AFFAIRS

MAR 1 5 2004

The Honorable John W. Warner
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-6050

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to forward the report prescribed in Section 751 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001 Section 751 requires the Secretary of Defense to submit to Congress an annual written report on the number of members of the Armed Forces who have been separated as a result of refusing to participate in the Anthrax Vaccine Immunization Program (AVIP).

During the January 1 through December 31, 2003 reporting period, 18 service members were separated as a result of refusing to participate in AVIP out of a total of 436,513 Service members vaccinated

As noted in the attached table, the separations rate for Calendar Year (CY) 2003 is comparable to what was observed in CY 2002 and 2001 and lower than it was in CY 2000

As of December 31, 2003, over 1,034,640 Service members have received over 3,736,170 doses of vaccine in the AVIP

Thank you for your support of the Military Health System

Sincerely,

William Winkenwerder, Jr., MD

Enclosure
As stated

cc
Senator Carl Levin

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
REPORT ON
SEPARATIONS THAT RESULT FROM A REFUSAL TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ANTHRAX VACCINE IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

		CY 2000 Separations		CY 2001 Separations		CY 2002 Separations		CY 2003 Separations	
Service	Component	Separations	Rank	Separations	Rank	Separations	Rank	Separations	Rank
Army	Active	14	E1, E3(4), E4(6), E5(2), O2	0	NA	0	NA	1	E4(2), E5
	Guard	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	1	NA
	Reserve	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	1	NA
Navy	Active	13	E1, E2(3), E3(5), E4(2), E5, O1	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA
	Reserve	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA
Air Force	Active	48	E1(16), E2(15), E3(14), E4(16), E5(7), O1, O4	0	NA	1	E4	10	E1, E3(5), E4(3), E5
	Guard	22		1	O4	0	NA	1	E4
	Reserve	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA
Marines	Active	12	E1(3), E2(5), E3, E4(3)	1	E3	0	NA	3	E3, E5, O2
	Reserve	0	NA	0	NA	0	NA	1	E4
DoD Totals		109		2		1		18	
# of Persons Vaccinated:		109466		28852		72744		436513	
Separation Rate as %		0.1		0.001		0.007		0.004	