



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-4000



FORCE MANAGEMENT
POLICY

APR 9 1999

Mr. Vincent H. Bartning
P.O. Box 62291
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-2291

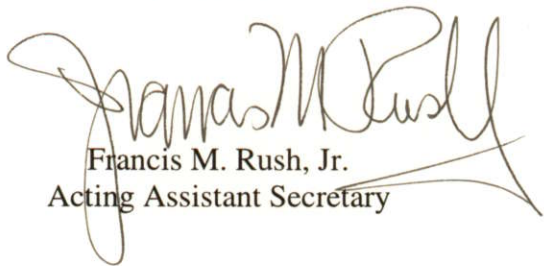
Dear Mr. Bartning:

I have been asked to respond to your fax of March 10, 1999, to the Secretary of Defense. The fax forwarded a copy of a draft letter to the President inviting him to become a member of the Board of Directors of your company, 21st Century Fortune in Dimes. You also discussed your concern for families of war dead, particularly families of U.S. war dead. Your fax mentioned the possibility that the Secretary of Defense would also be invited to serve on your Board of Directors.

It would not be appropriate for a representative of this Department to speak on behalf of the President regarding your invitation to him. However, I can say that laws and regulations that apply to the Secretary of Defense would not allow him to serve on your Board of Directors. Although we appreciate your considering the Secretary, if such an invitation were extended, he would have to decline.

On behalf of this Department, I express deep appreciation for your concern for the families of those who have given their lives in service to our country and wish you every success in your endeavors.

Sincerely,



Francis M. Rush, Jr.
Acting Assistant Secretary

