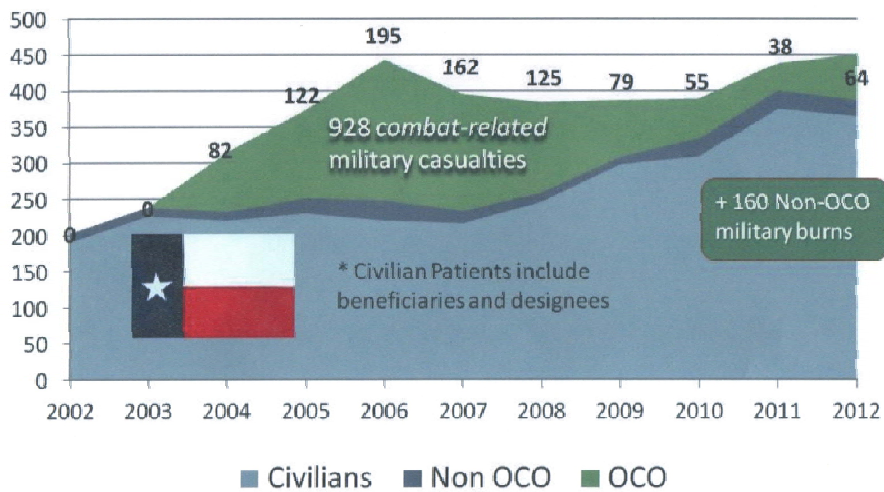


## Sustaining and Advancing Amputee Care

**General (Ret) Frederick Franks**

Defense Health Board  
June 27, 2013

## Patients Admitted to Burn Center



Data as of Feb 2012



CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20318-9999

CM-0147-13  
5 June 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR HEALTH AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Sustaining and Advancing Amputee Care

1. This memorandum responds to the Defense Health Board's request for a formal endorsement of the importance of subject care.
2. As the conflict in Afghanistan winds down, I recognize the importance of preserving the knowledge, skills, and advances made in caring for amputees over the past decade. I am mindful that the welcome anticipated reduction in war-related amputations may also be attended by the loss of knowledge and lessons learned that have brought us to the current level of capability. As such, sustaining current practices and continuing advancements in treatment and rehabilitation should be a high priority for the Defense Health Board.
3. My point of contact is Major General Douglas J. Robb, USAF; Joint Staff Surgeon, J-4; 703-697-4346.

MARTIN E. DEMPSEY  
General, U.S. Army



PERSONNEL AND  
READINESS

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

JUN 20 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR PRESIDENT, DEFENSE HEALTH BOARD

SUBJECT: Request to the Defense Health Board Pertaining to Sustaining and Advancing Amputee Care

In a memorandum dated June 5, 2013 (attached), the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff indicated the sustainment of current practices and the continuing advancements in treatment and rehabilitation of amputees should be a high priority for the Defense Health Board (DHB). He recognizes the need to ensure there is no loss of knowledge and skills due to the drawdown of the Afghanistan conflict with the welcomed reduction of war-related amputations.

I request DHB review the full spectrum of amputee care, and define a strategy for preserving and continuing these advancements, identifying the best possible care to our beneficiaries. Your thoughtful advice and guidance would greatly assist us in this matter. Please provide a response on these items to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs. Thank you for the highly professional and considered work of the Board and for your efforts on this new initiative.

Jessica L. Wright  
Acting



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**Questions?**