

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

January 17, 2013

The Honorable John McHugh  
Secretary of the Army  
101 Army Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20310-0101

Dear Secretary McHugh,

I am writing to you today with growing concern regarding recent reports of servicemen and women deployed in Afghanistan not receiving breakfast.

Recently, it has come to my attention that certain bases in Afghanistan have stopped serving breakfast to our deployed troops. I have been informed by a U.S. Army representative that 17 locations in Afghanistan have enacted this meal strategy. Instead of breakfast, the soldiers are now receiving MRE's.

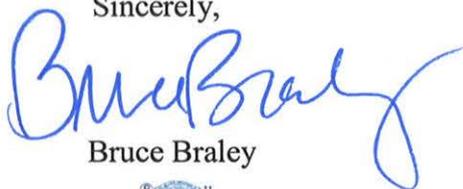
The reasoning behind this change has been described to me as moving from "a sustained presence feeding concept to that of an expeditionary feeding concept." I am troubled that the Army would deny any deployed troops three meals per day, regardless of force size. These men and women put their lives on the line every day to protect the very freedoms we cherish. The exhaustive mental and physical labor that is required by soldiers to fight in harsh and unforgiving conditions is tremendous. We shouldn't deny our troops something as fundamental as a proper meal.

I am positive that with the logistical mastery the Army has exhibited in combat operations around the world, you can logistically administer the procedure of serving breakfast every day.

Additionally, I was also informed that this policy will be expanded to more locations in Afghanistan starting February 1, 2013. I do not see any reason why this has to be the case. The greatest military in the world should have the capacity to adequately service the basic needs of its fighting force.

I urge you to reverse this policy and swiftly reintroduce breakfast for our men and women serving in uniform abroad. Thank you for your time and consideration regarding this matter and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Bruce Braley