



THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

7/9/2018

His Royal Highness
Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud
Crown Prince, Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister of Defense
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Riyadh

YOUR ROYAL HIGHNESS,

I read with great interest and appreciation the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman's statement supporting President Ghani's reconciliation efforts in Afghanistan and calling for a renewed ceasefire and end to hostilities there. The Imam of the Grand Mosque, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, and the Muslim World League's subsequent statements further reinforced this message and helped magnify its importance to the Afghan people.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to you, and to your country's leadership, for Saudi Arabia's willingness to fulfill a critical role for regional stability at this vital moment in history. Your leadership and candor on this issue reflects not only Saudi Arabia's efforts to curb terrorism and extremism, but also the strength of our nations' important strategic partnership.

Thank you again for your support on this matter, and I look forward to working with you in pursuit of peace in Afghanistan going forward.

SINCERELY,

John Mattis