

**RELEASE IN FULL**

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**From:** Abedin, Huma <AbedinH@state.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 23, 2011 10:39 PM  
**To:** H  
**Subject:** Shali statement

Fyi - this just went out

**Statement by President and Secretary Clinton on the Passing of General John Shalikashvili**

Hillary and I are deeply saddened by the passing of our close friend and colleague, General John Shalikashvili. He represented America at its best. An immigrant who entered the Army as a draftee, he rose to become an exceptional Chairman of the Joint Chiefs-of-Staff, who oversaw more than forty operations, including the liberation of Haiti from a brutal dictatorship, and NATO's first use of force outside its member countries in Bosnia. His staunch advocacy for the Bosnian people saved thousands of lives in the Balkans. He was also a key advocate for nuclear weapons reduction, the expansion of NATO and the creation of a partnership for peace, and always, for the men and women in uniform from whose ranks he came. I was honored to award him the Presidential Medal of Freedom. General Shalikashvili will be remembered as a superb general and a wonderful man, who saw the world through some of the most critical moments of the late 20th Century. Our thoughts and prayers are with Joan and Brant.