



The Honorable Michael P. Duffey
Under Secretary of War for Acquisition and Sustainment
The U.S. Department of War

PEOPLE FOR
THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS

Via e-mail

Dear Under Secretary Duffey:

I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) – PETA entities have more than 10.4 million members and supporters globally – with a suggestion for how to fast-track the Pentagon's mission to create a "High T Department of War," and optimize service members' health and performance: replace artery-clogging, high cholesterol cow's milk – designed for babies (baby calves, that is) – with combat-ready soy milk at all military facilities. We'd be happy to help sponsor this upgrade, and to get you kitted out, we'd love to send you a crate of protein-packed soymilk, made from 100% American-grown soybeans! Soy is for soldiers!

Under Secretary Hegseth's leadership, the Pentagon has placed a renewed focus on improving troops' longevity and performance, and to reach that goal, our modern armed forces must put cow's milk *out to pasture*. Studies have linked drinking cow's milk to increased rates of cancers, particularly prostate cancer, as well as cardiovascular disease and strokes, while a recent meta-analysis found that switching to soy milk can improve heart health, reduce inflammation and cholesterol, and lower cancer risk. Also, on dairy farms, cows are repeatedly forcibly impregnated, which leads them to produce milk containing high levels of estrogen and progesterone, and studies have found that drinking cow's milk can *decrease* testosterone.

The benefits of upgrading 21st-century warfighters with performance-boosting soy milk extend beyond human health. No one likes factory farms, and in the dairy industry, mothers and babies are separated shortly after birth so that milk intended for calves can be sold to humans instead. Mother cows have been known to chase after vehicles carrying away their young and cry out for days afterward. Calves who drink milk are undeniably adorable. They're also wobbly. Sweet and wobbly may be ideal qualities in a newborn calf, but they are not generally considered optimal traits for troops on the front lines or behind the controls of a drone.

For the Pentagon to have a "High T Department of War," it may wish to immediately reconsider serving a beverage intended for baby cows. Should you decide to undertake this mission, PETA stands ready to support Operation Soy Supremacy, Operation Bean Brigade, or whatever tactical name you choose.

Respectfully,

Ingrid Newkirk
Principal

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