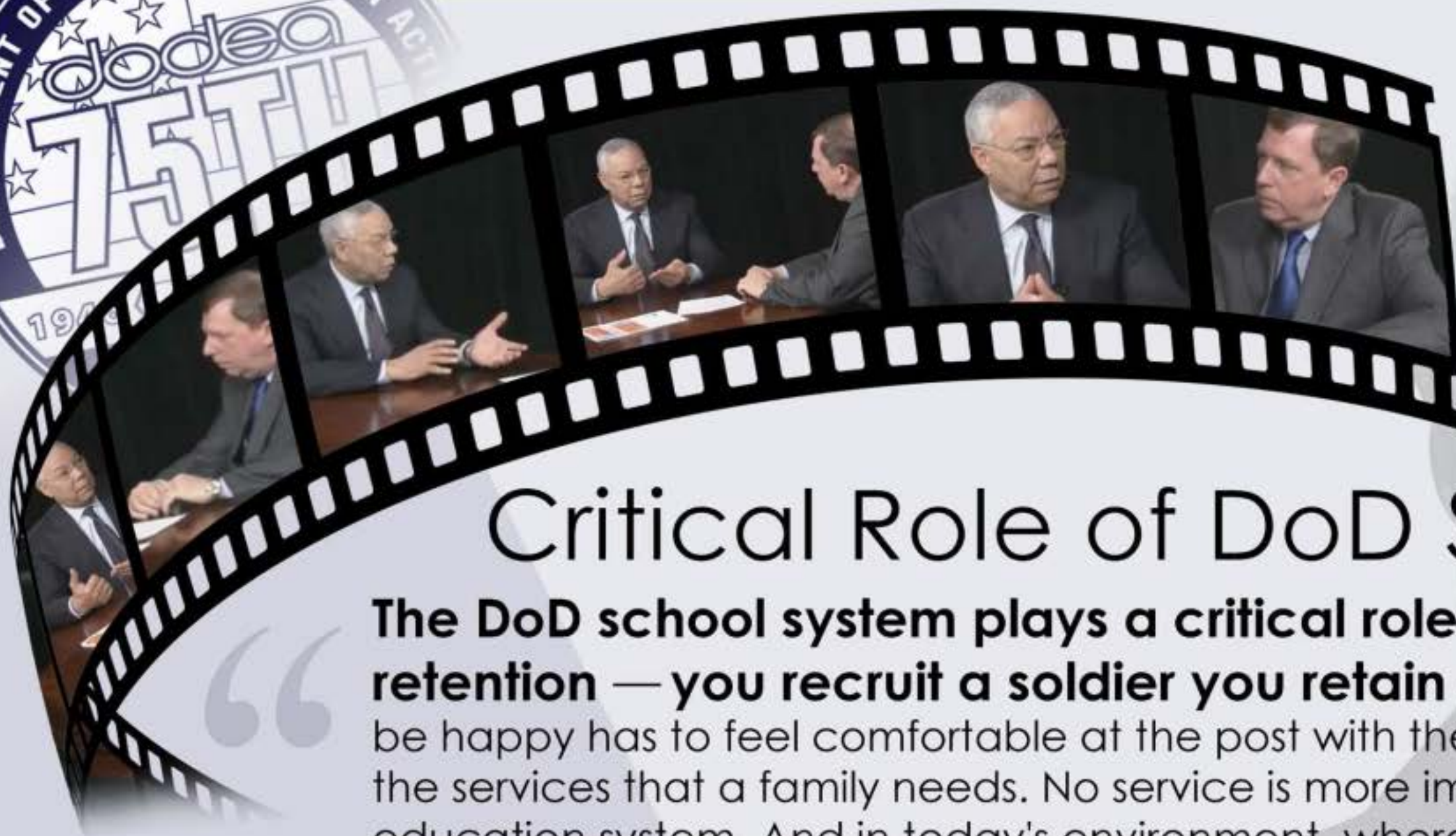


IN THEIR WORDS



## Critical Role of DoD Schools

**The DoD school system plays a critical role in morale and retention — you recruit a soldier you retain a family.** A family to be happy has to feel comfortable at the post with the community providing the services that a family needs. No service is more important than a quality education system. And in today's environment, where we have so many parents that are deployed overseas as part of our responsibilities in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere, this kind of stabilizing presence in the form of a quality school system is more important than ever with respect to readiness.

General Colin Powell

*Chat Room Interview (June 13, 2011)*