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Last Updated: 03/30/2023

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

November 23, 1983

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MEMORANDUM FOR RONALD K. PETERSON

FROM:

2 ROBERT M. KIMMITT

SUBJECT:

OMB Legislative Referral re. House Concurrent Resolution 172

NSC staff has reviewed and concurs with the State Spending Department's draft report on H. Con. Res. 172.

Mac 8308030

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

November 18, 1983

FOR

BOB KIMMITT

FROM

DON FORTIER

SUBJECT OMB Legislative Referral

Your memo to Ronald Peterson at Tab I states NSC's concurrence with the State Department draft report on H. Con. Res. 172.

Jack Matlock, Gaston Sigur,

and Chris Mahman concur.

Attachments

Tab I Kimmitt/Peterson

Tab II OMB memo w/incoming

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

Nov. 23, 1983

TO NSC/S

See David Laux's concurrence for Sigur on profile sheet of 8030.

Also, please see Matlock's concurrence noted on his concurrence copy of 8030.

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

SSherman

Nov 18

TO GASTON SIGUR TO GASTON SIGUR CHRIS LEHMAN

For concurrence, please.

Pls. advise Sally Sherman when ready. Thanks. X 5026

National Security Council The White House

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John Poindexter			
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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

November 3, 1983

LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL MEMORANDUM

TO:

Legislative Liaison Officer-

Départment of Defense National Security Council

SUBJECT:

State draft report on H.Con.Res. 172, "requesting the President to call on pertinent member nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and on Japan to meet their respective commitments to increase defense spending in 1983 and 1984."

The Office of Management and Budget requests the views of your agency on the above subject before advising on its relationship to the program of the President, in accordance with OMB Circular A-19.

A response to this request for your views is needed no later than TUESDAY, 29 NOVEMBER 1983.

Questions should be referred to Tracey Lawler (395-4710) the legislative analyst in this office.

RONALD K. PETERSON FOR Assistant Director for Legislative Reference

Enclosures

cc: Bob Howard

John Eisenhour

Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am delighted to have a chance to offer comments on behalf of the Department of State regarding H. R. 172, which would request the President to call on pertinent member nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and on Japan to meet their respective commitments to increase defense spending in 1983 and 1984.

The Department of State regards it as a matter of high priority to ensure that our Allies provide a fair contribution to the cost of protecting our common security. The U.S. government actively pursues this goal on an ongoing basis by identifying carefully what that contribution should be, and by energetically pressing our Allies to provide it. We shall continue to seize every opportunity to further this objective, both in the context of high-level meetings and in day-to-day exchanges with the other members of the Alliance.

As regards the provision of H.R. 172 which requests the President to call on pertinent NATO members to meet or exceed their pledges for a three percent real increase in defense, spending in 1983 and 1984, the President took the lead at the NATO summit in Bonn last year in calling on the Allies to reaffirm their pledge to fulfill NATO force goals. This initiative resulted in approval of a summit document on defense which reaffirmed the commitment of NATO governments to strengthen defense capabilities both through fulfillment of NATO force goals to the greatest extent possible -- which would actually require their exceeding the three percent goal -- as well as through more effective application of existing resources to defense and due attention to fair burden sharing.

We continue to work closely with the Department of Defense to identify the most effective programs for meeting the threat facing the Alliance, and to ensure that our Allies implement them effectively and in a manner which fairly shares the common defense burden.

'The Department also agrees that Japan should give priority attention to increasing substantially its self-defense capabilities, and we believe firmly that Japan is moving in this direction. Officials of this Administration, including the President himself, continue on every appropriate occasion

The Honorable
Clement J. Zablocki,
Chairman,
Committee on For

Committee on Foreign Affairs, House of Representatives to urge their Japanese counterparts to move rapidly toward meeting the defense goals outlined by former Prime Minister Suzuki in May 1981. Those goals -- defending Japan's territory, sea and air space, and sea lanes out to 1000 nautical miles -- envision military capability substantially beyond that embodied in the 1983-1987 mid-term defense plan

Steady increases in the Japanese defense budget over the past several years suggest that our efforts have enjoyed some success. For Japense Fiscal Year 1984 (April 1, 1984 - March 31, 1985) a defense spending ceiling of 6.88 percent above JFY 1983 has been authorized. This ceiling stands in contrast to the minus ten percent spending ceilings ordered for most other government authorities due to Japan's severe fiscal situation. Japanese defense authorities state that procurement targets of the five-year-plan can be met under the projected budget, but even so, we remain concerned that progress toward the more ambitious goals outlined by Mr. Suzuki would be inadequate. We will continue our representations on this matter to the Japanese.

I am confident that these efforts with our NATO and Japanese Allies will continue to enhance mutual security on the basis of equitable participation in meeting the costs of maintaining that security.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that from the standpoint of the Administration's program there is no objection to the submission of this report.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely,

Alvin Paul Drischler
Acting Assistant Secretary
Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

RECEIVED 04 NOV 83 17

TO

KIMMITT

FROM PETERSON, R DOCDATE 03 NOV 83

KEYWORDS NATO

JAPAN

DEFENSE POLICY DEFENSE BUDGET

LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL

SUBJECT HR-172 RE NATO & JAPAN INCREASE IN DEFENSE SPENDING

ACTION MEMO KIMMITT TO PETERSON DUE 29 NOV 83 STATUS S FILES

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

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COMMENTS

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