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Report (08/05/1982-08/27/1982)

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### WITHDRAWAL SHEET

#### Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: AGENCY FILE

Withdrawer

5/9/2013

**RBW** 

File Folder

SECRETARY WEINBERGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

**FOIA** 

(08/05/1982-08/27/1982)

M453

**Box Number** 

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ID Doc Type	e Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
159144 MEMO	CASPAR WEINBERGER TO RR RE. WEEKLY REPORT ON DEFENSE ACTIVITIES	5	8/5/1982	B1
·	R 1/31/2019 M453/6		• 4	
159145 MEMO	CASPAR WEINBERGER TO RR RE. WEEKLY REPORT ON DEFENSE ACTIVITIES	6	8/13/1982	B1
	R 1/26/2016 M453/6	,		
159157 MEMO	CASPAR WEINBERGER TO RR RE. WEEKLY REPORT ON DEFENSE ACTIVITIES	6	8/20/1982	B1
	R 1/26/2016 M453/6			
159158 MEMO	CASPAR WEINBERGER TO RR RE. WEEKLY REPORT ON DEFENSE ACTIVITIES	. 6	8/27/1982	B1
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159159 MEMO	CASPAR WEINBERGER TO RR RE. WEEKLY REPORT ON DEFENSE ACTIVITIES [COPY OF DOC. 159158]	6	8/27/1982	B1
	R 2/22/2019 M453/6			
159160 MEMO	CASPAR WEINBERGER TO RR RE. WEEKLY REPORT ON DEFENSE ACTIVITIES	3	9/4/1982	B1
	R 1/26/2016 M453/6			

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B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA] B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

### THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

698

August 5, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Weinberger's Weekly Report

Attached is Cap Weinberger's Weekly Report dated August 5, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver





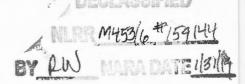


WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

August 5, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Weekly Report on Defense Activities



Legislative Affairs: As you know, the House completed floor action on the DoD Authorization Bill last week. As a result of several floor amendments, the completed bill contains a section designed to protect former spouses of military members after divorce. I believe this legislation is long overdue and should be enacted as a matter of equity for those who have made sacrifices for their military spouses. I am hopeful that when the conferees decide this issue, they will strike a balance between fairness for the former spouse and appropriate protection for the military member.

The former spouse provisions in the House Authorization Bill would allow state courts to treat up to 50% of a military member's retired pay as community property in state court divorce proceedings, provide former spouses health care on the same basis as dependents of retirees if the marriage lasted 20 years while the military member was in the military, and entitle former spouses to use military commissaries and exchanges on the same basis as for the health care provision. The Bill would require at least a 10 year marriage before the legislation becomes operative and terminate payments if the former spouse remarries before age 60.

In further action on the Hill, the House and Senate Armed Services Committees began Conference on Tuesday. Conference is not expected to be completed prior to the end of next week and involves several controversial and large dollar programs. Also on Tuesday, the Senate Appropriations Committee marked up the FY 82 Supplemental request. In this action, they approved almost all of the funds requested for pay but reduced the request of \$2.48B for Procurement and the Operations and Maintenance Account to \$400M. We expect the Senate to consider the Supplemental next Monday.

Visit of Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir: I spent approximately an hour with Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir in the Pentagon on Monday. As expected, the main topic we discussed was the Lebanon situation. The meeting gave me an opportunity to emphasize the importance of both sides maintaining the ceasefire and the critical need for a political solution to the West Beirut problem. We agreed that a strong



Lebanese Government and the withdrawal of all foreign forces from all of Lebanon are essential to a permanent peace. I also stressed that the next major step toward achieving a lasting peace had to be an attempt to solve the whole Palestinian question.

Also, today I talked with the representatives of the U.S. Jewish organizations at the State Department and made the point that we all agreed that the PLO must get out of Beirut, but that the PLO was different from the Palestinians, and that the latter had to be settled somewhere. They seemed receptive and I believe understood that our commitment to Israel is firm and unswerving. (C)

Visit of Lieutenant General bin Shaker: Lieutenant General bin Shaker, Commander in Chief, Jordanian Armed Forces, paid a private call on me last Thursday, and also met with other Defense officials. The General emphasized Jordan's desires for continuing U.S. support and for an acceleration of delivery times for certain high priority military equipment. We indicated a willingness to accelerate delivery times for some equipment (e.g., artillery ammunition, self-propelled howitzers, and anti-infiltration equipment) to the extent that we can. We also discussed high priority security assistance issues. The visits were cordial and frank and were considered highly successful by General bin Shaker.

I continue to get the strong impression that Jordan ultimately will recognize, and can work in harmony with Israel. (S)

General Accounting Office and Internal Audit Results: I am very pleased to report that we have made significant progress in implementing your guidance to utilize fully, effectively, and promptly, audit reports on fraud, waste, abuse, and mismanagement. Both here and in the Military Departments we have established procedures and systems to identify and resolve disputed audit findings or recommendations, and to track the status of corrective actions taken to improve our programs and operations.

During the six-month period ending March 31, 1982, we completed corrective actions on 16,024 recommendations from the General Accounting Office and Department of Defense internal auditors, with estimated savings of \$2.3 billion. Corrective actions were still in progress on 13,081 other recommendations which may eventually yield up to \$3.2 billion in savings. Similarly, we are tracking significant post-award contract audit reports issued by the Defense Contract Audit Agency during this sixmonth period with up to \$.7 billion in questioned costs. Progress also is being made in working on the backlog of older, unsettled contract audits, which entail \$1.1 billion in questioned costs. I believe that continued attention to these audit reports, combined with determined follow-up, will result in even greater savings than we had originally expected. (U)





Defense Resources Board (DRB) Agreement on Military Pay Raises: To the great security benefit of the country, you came into office committed to pay comparability for military personnel. We achieved that goal last October with the 14.3 percent military pay raise.

This year, under the terms of the budget resolution adopted by the Congress, we are asking military personnel to make an across-the-board sacrifice and accept a 4 percent raise instead of the approximate 8 percent necessary to maintain comparability. Given the tight fiscal climate under which we are now operating, and the sacrifices being made by civilian workers in both the government and the private sector, it was also agreed by all Defense Resources Board members (which includes all Services) in our meeting of July 28, that DoD will not propose a catch-up pay raise for FY 84 (which would probably raise the total 1984 compensation increase to approximately 12%) to offset the 4% pay cap in FY 83.

I know that the Administration remains committed to paying our men and women in uniform a level of pay that is not only equitable but also will enable us to be competitive with the private sector for the manpower needed to meet our force objectives. Once the economy turns around, the impact on recruiting and retention could be immediate and severe if military members perceive that we are entering a sustained period of pay caps. As DRB members we all agreed that we must do everything we can to avoid a cap on military pay in FY 84 and FY 85 so that beginning in FY 84, annual increases in military pay will return to the comparability principle. (U)

Acquisition Improvement Program: Shortly after assuming office, one of our initial efforts here in Defense was to develop and implement an Acquisition Improvement Program. The Program included 32 specific initiatives designed to improve and strengthen the whole acquisition process.

A full review of the Program has just been completed, and it is clear that we have moved steadily forward. Most gratifying was progress in multiyear contracting, preplanned product improvement, increased support and readiness in most areas, enhanced competition for Defense contracts, and broader Congressional support for Defense-sponsored legislative initiatives.

While I am pleased with this progress, it is also clear that we have some way to go before the 32 initiatives are a part of the "daily way of doing business" in the Department of Defense. With this in mind, we will proceed from this point by insuring that our policies are fully used at the working level of each Service, and by insuring that top-level management decisions reflect the policies and principles of the initiatives. In this regard, Frank Carlucci recently met with the Joint Logistics Commanders (JLCs) and discussed the Program. The intent of that discussion was to emphasize the necessity of getting



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the initiatives down to the appropriate decision-making level in each case and to ensure that the principles of the program permeated the buying commands. Ultimate responsibility for implementation by the Services, of course, rests with the Service Secretaries. As a result of this discussion, the JLCs appointed a flag-level committee to oversee implementation of the initiatives in the buying commands.

I expect this committee to work closely with our Acquisition Improvement Steering Group. The JLCs will also provide status reports with increased quantification to identify actions taken and results achieved. Further, they will work with my staff to develop an early warning system that identifies acquisition problems. I believe that we are on the right track with this program and, with concentrated effort, we will see our objectives in acquisition improvement come to fruition. (U)

White House Private Sector Survey on Cost Control: The four White House Private Sector Survey Teams on Cost Control that are assigned to the Department of Defense are well started on their efforts. The team that is looking at my staff areas has been briefed on budget structure, accounting systems, cash management, foreign military sales, supply, transportation, commissaries and exchanges, personnel management, audits, and internal fund controls.

The twenty-four members on the Army Team are organized into three sub-elements. The elements are reviewing Army programs and assets; organization, control, and systems; and personnel and manpower. The Navy Team has received briefings on procurement and contracting, inventory management, hospital management, budget and financial management, and ADP management and procurement. The Air Force Team is visiting major commanders and field activities and is concentrating on personnel and manpower systems, programming and budget process, acquisition process, base closings, and logistics management.

Additionally, three government-wide "cross-cutting" teams have visited various Defense offices to discuss Department of Defense procurement, hospital and health management, and ADP procurement and management.

The teams are in various stages of progress, with activities continuously accelerating toward the mid-September draft reports. We in Defense are fully cooperating with the teams and are trying to help them in executing your charter. (U)

Department of Defense-American Indian Activities: Several recent events have focused on Department of Defense-Indian activities. In view of these events, your recent proclamation designating August 14 National Navajo Code Talkers Day, and your continuing interest in Indian affairs, I thought you might like an update of relevant Department activities.





After visits from several Tribal leaders and other Indian representatives, we increased emphasis on providing industrial location assistance to the Navajo Nation and Laguna Pueblo. This has resulted in several solid contacts with private firms who now are actively considering plant locations or expansions on the reservation.

We also wrote to major U.S. firms requesting their assistance for Indian economic development. Early responses to these letters show a wide range of corporate contracting with Indian firms, as well as further willingness to consider Indian locations and enterprises as part of the Defense buildup.

Also, we assigned counsel to define the Department's authority under the "Buy Indian" amendment to the 1982 Appropriation Act introduced by Senator Dominici. We also joined with the White House Working Group on Indian Policy to prepare the Indian Policy Statement and decision memoranda for presentation to the Cabinet Council on Human Resources. (U)





## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT

August 14, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Weinberger's Weekly Report

Attached is Cap Weinberger's Weekly Report dated August 13, 1982.

cc; The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver

### CONFIDENTIAL

#### THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

159145

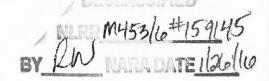


WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

August 13, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Weekly Report of Defense Activities



<u>Legislative Affairs</u>: This has been an extremely productive week for Defense issues on Capitol Hill. We have made progress on several of our major legislative proposals in both the House and Senate.

Of primary interest, House and Senate conferees continued to meet each day this week in working toward resolution of our FY 1983 Defense Authorization Bill. Although final action has not yet been completed on several of the major outstanding issues, including procurement of the MX missile and C-5 aircraft, we have achieved favorable results on other issues. The conferees have rejected or watered down several of the potentially troublesome "Buy America" amendments. On the former spouses issue, the Conference was successful in eliminating the Hance Amendment which would exempt community property states from all the serviceman's protections which we supported.

In further support of our strengthened Defense program, the House on Wednesday night passed our FY 1983 Military Construction Authorization Bill by a strong 332 to 57 vote. In this action the House wisely rejected an amendment that we had actively opposed which would prohibit U.S. support for NATO if any three NATO nations did not meet their 1977 pledge to increase defense spending in real terms by three percent. This amendment would have been very damaging to our relations with NATO members, so we made an intensive effort to telephone 30 key House members to indicate personally our firm opposition. We were very pleased to learn that the amendment was defeated 245 to 151.

We were also generally pleased with the action of the Senate this week in moving the FY 1982 Supplemental Appropriations Bill one step closer to becoming public law. Following Senate passage late Wednesday, the bill is now in the hands of a House-Senate Conference Committee. As you know, it is imperative that a bill be passed soon in order to provide badly needed funds for military pay to cover last year's military pay raises. These pay raises are partly responsible for the tremendous improvement in our recruitment and retention efforts. We will run out of appropriated funds for salaries August 18 if the Supplemental is not passed before then. As a result of extraordinary internal actions, and if we use all of our transfer authority, we could meet payroll until August 22. We are pushing strenuously for passage of a pay bill.

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Although we appreciate the general level of Congressional support shown for the Defense portion of the Supplemental, the House and Senate have deferred action on many of our program Supplemental requests. This will likely result in increased costs and delays for some of our important Defense programs.

On Thursday, Frank met with the Senate Assistant Majority Leader and Defense Appropriations Subcommittee Chairman, Ted Stevens. Stevens was very cordial and is strongly pushing for passage of a Defense Appropriations Bill for FY 1983 before the election recess in order to avoid a Continuing Resolution. We offered him our full support because of the extreme hardships for military families and the increased costs which are created in a Continuing Resolution by the prohibition of new construction starts. Stevens expressed strong support for our attempts to bring about cost-saving management reforms to the Pentagon, as well as for the Administration's Defense build-up.

Tuesday, I gave a breakfast for Chairman Dick White and other members of the House Armed Services Investigations Subcommittee at the Pentagon. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss White's active interest in proposing legislation to reorganize the Joint Chiefs of Staff. After an exhaustive set of hearings, the Subcommittee reported a legislative proposal and the Full Committee approved White's bill. As I indicated to the Committee, we share their strong interest in reviewing the JCS structure. Toward that goal, I have directed General Vessey and the other members of the JCS to report to me by October I their personal recommendations and views on the various reorganization proposals now under consideration. The Committee has been very cooperative in giving General Vessey an opportunity to spend some time in his new position before being committed to long-term, substantive reforms. (U)

Visit of Israeli Labor Party Leader, Shimon Peres: On Tuesday, I met with Shimon Peres, leader of Israel's Labor Party. As expected, our primary topic of conversation was the Lebanon situation, and I took advantage of the opportunity to emphasize our strong support for the Habib mission. I also stressed the necessity of a complete ceasefire, to be fully observed by both sides, in order to allow for PLO withdrawal and establishment of a strong central Lebanese Government. I further reiterated the importance of a political, rather than a military, solution to the problems of West Beirut and an early resumption of the wider peace process.

Peres is an extremely reasonable, thoughtful man, and there is no doubt whatever that our relationship with Israel, and indeed the entire Mideast, would be vastly improved if he were Prime Minister. I believe he would seek better, closer relationships with Jordan and other moderate Arab countries, and would support our efforts to do the same. (C)





Visit of Portuguese Foreign Minister Vasco Futscher Pereira: met with the new Portuguese Foreign Minister Vasco Futscher Pereira (former Ambassador to the U.S.) on Tuesday. Minister Futscher Pereira was concerned primarily with the very small amount of military aid for Portugal in the security assistance legislation which is not moving in the Congress, and the implications this has on our base-rights negotiations. The Portuguese urgently need to increase their defenses, both Army and Navy. These issues are particularly sensitive at this time when Portugal is revising its constitution to put the military under civilian authority. Under the provisions of the revised constitution the Portuguese military expects to be taken care of as they have been in the past, but the government has practically no ability to support the military without outside assistance. I tried to reassure him that we view Portugal as very important strategically and that we have built our contingency plans around the use of Portuguese facilities. I also indicated that we will continue to try to find aid to help modernize the Portuguese Armed Forces. He pointed out the immense difference between the amounts we give Egypt and Israel, compared with the smaller sum asked for Portugal, all of which is only to be loaned to Portugal at going rates of interest.

He suggested that Portugal send a military delegation to Washington to discuss Portuguese military needs and what might be available on a loan or lease basis. I told him I would be delighted to receive such a team. (C)

FY 1984-1988 Defense Program Review: Our Defense Resources Board (DRB) has just completed its review of the FY 1984-1988 Defense program. The resulting program is within the fiscal guidance that you established for the Department of Defense. While even at this funding level we will not be able to achieve all of the force and capabilities improvements for which need can be demonstrated, we can carry forward your major Defense initiatives, including the strategic forces improvements with the totals you established for 1984-85. Final details of the Defense program will be developed this fall when we go through the full budget preparation process of getting our proposals ready to be sent to you. (U)

Navy Ship Overhaul Site Selection: As you are aware, one of the actions that invariably elicits emotional political reaction is the announcement of a major Navy ship overhaul contract award. This certainly is understandable since the economic impact of such contracts may be significant. We will be awarding several of these contracts in the coming years, and I thought you might want some background on our procedures, which are designed to get the work done as well, as quickly, and as inexpensively as possible.

For years overhaul contracts were awarded within the private sector on a fixed-price basis to qualified shipyards under master ship repair contracts solely on the basis of their bid





price. The result, in many cases, was poor quality overhauls, excessive cost growth, substantial schedule delays, and claims. To improve performance and to get our Navy ships back into the operating fleet in a timely manner, we established an Overhaul Improvement Program which requires that we look at how well, or poorly, bidders have done on prior jobs, and what is their present capability.

The full amount of work for many complex overhauls cannot be defined well enough in advance to permit the use of fixed-price contracts. Therefore, we have begun using cost type contracts on a limited basis. Some of the benefits of these contracts are active participation of the contractors in planning the overhaul, as well as its execution, improved crew morale through early notification of the overhaul location, and reduction of adversarial relationships and claims submissions.

Under our new procedures in evaluating proposals and making awards, we look at technical and management capability, facilities, past performance, experience, and cost. Additionally, multi-ship contracts provide efficiencies and economies.

Based on our current overhaul award policy, I feel that the criteria used and the relative merit assigned to each will achieve high quality overhauls, within schedule, at a reasonable price. This, combined with our policy of trying to do at least one-third of all overhaul work in the home port of the ship, should provide ample opportunity for qualified shipyards to compete on a fair and equitable basis for overhaul work. (U)

Peruvian Request for F-16 Aircraft: Peru has requested a Letter of Offer and Acceptance (LOA) for twenty-six F-16 fighter aircraft (the model developed for export to lesser developed countries). We have initiated the required action with State to start the Congressional notification cycle. Current plans are to send a four-man Air Force team to Peru late this month to provide briefings and present the price and availability data. I believe the chances are fair that Peru will be the first country to purchase this model of the F-16 aircraft. This would be a positive step in breaking Peruvian dependency on Soviet military equipment and possibly open additional opportunities in the future to enhance U.S.-Peruvian relations further. (C)

Navy Support of Coast Guard Drug Interdiction Efforts: I have just formally approved specific Navy assistance to the Coast Guard in drug interdiction operations as an interim measure to stem the flow of illegal drugs into the country until civilian law enforcement capabilities become adequate to deal with the threat posed by drug smugglers without Navy assistance. Specific assistance approved includes air and surface surveillance operations, embarkation of Coast Guard detachments on Navy ships for boardings of U.S. flag and stateless vessels, towing or escorting of seized vessels and transportation of arrested





persons in Coast Guard custody, and logistic support to Coast Guard forces.

In a related action, I also approved use of the high frequency radio direction finding capability of the U.S. Signals Intelligence System to support Coast Guard drug interdiction efforts. Application of this capability will enable location of ships or aircraft by monitoring high frequency radio transmissions. The transmissions will be monitored only for the purpose of locating their sources, and the contents of these communications will neither be retained nor disseminated outside the Signals Intelligence System.

I believe these measures will enable the Coast Guard to perform the enormous task of drug interdiction much more effectively and, indeed, to an increasing degree, to deter the inclinations of many would-be smugglers. (U)

Drug and Alcohol Abuse Survey: As a follow-up to our 1980 survey, we will conduct a worldwide drug and alcohol abuse survey between September and November. The survey will involve some 26,000 military personnel at over sixty installations, and will be designed to determine statistically the rate of substance use within the Military Services, as a prelude to treatment and other actions. An additional objective of the survey will be to detect physical, social, and work consequences, including drug and alcohol dependence.

Individual responses to survey queries will be anonymous in order to encourage complete candor and to insure that we define the true nature of the problem. The survey sample will include randomly selected officer and enlisted personnel and will be stratified by each Military Service across four regions—the U.S., Pacific, Europe, and other.

You may recall that our 1980 survey revealed that overall drug use had decreased since an earlier worldwide drug abuse survey in 1974. I am very confident that an even lower usage rate will be indicated in the upcoming survey, particularly in view of the very significant efforts by the Services to reduce illicit drug use over the past two years. (U)

California Trip: On my trip to California to speak to the American Bar Association, I watched the Marine boot camp training in San Diego. This is a very impressive experience. The recruits are put through a very vigorous course, very few drop out, and the results, seen in the classes in the final days of training, are extremely encouraging.

I also inspected the USS KINCAID, a destroyer equipped with all our most modern armor, and missile detection and destruction systems. Almost any one of these systems would have saved the British cruiser SHEFFIELD, sunk in the Falklands by an Exocet missile.





The crew and officers of the KINCAID have very high morale, and seem to be delighted with all their new, complex, and very effective equipment.

While on this trip I also met with the Editorial Boards of five newspapers in California and Missouri, did several television and radio interviews, and spoke to large groups in Los Angeles, San Diego, and the Tuskegee Black Airmen's Group at their National Convention in St. Louis.

I had very cordial and supportive responses after presenting your programs to rearm the country, and responding to questions about the Tax Bill and the need to reduce the deficit. (U)





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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

Aug. 21, 1982

TO: NSC - BUD MCFARLANE

FR: JOHN POINDEXTER

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### National Sec\_ity Council The White House

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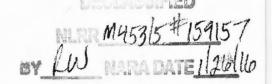
WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

159157

August 20, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Weekly Report of Defense Activities



Legislative Affairs: After two weeks of working closely with the conference committee, we secured passage of a compromised FY 1983 Defense Authorization bill. The Senate and House votes were 77-21 and 251-148, providing a major victory for your defense rebuilding effort. As finally approved, the bill provides \$178.0 billion in defense spending authority. This is below our original request by \$5.4 billion but is slightly above the revised request we made after the (\$7.4 billion in budget authority) budget reduction request in May.

The bill is generally consistent with the Congressional budget resolution, a point praised by Senate Budget Committee Chairman Pete Domenici. The conference endorsed all our most important major programs including the MX missile and the C-5 airlift aircraft, both of which had been turned down initially in the Senate and reversed in Conference. The bill also contains our request for the Trident submarine, the AH-64 helicopter and two nuclear aircraft carriers. The only disappointments for our program were reductions in civil defense and the ballisticmissile defense system, and deferral without prejudice for funds for production of binary chemical munitions. We hope to pursue these items with the committees to reinstate these programs as soon as possible. Again, I cannot say enough about the efforts on our behalf by John Tower, Bill Dickinson and Sam Stratton, as each of them did a truly outstanding job. I have communicated to them our great appreciation and deep thanks for a job well done.

I testified on Tuesday before Joe Addabbo's House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee to present the continued need to rebuild our defenses in view of growing Soviet capability. This session was our final opportunity to present the seriousness of our defense needs to the committee before they begin their important mark-up of our FY 1983 DoD Appropriations bill, which is likely to begin September 8. I described the list of dangerous new Soviet weapon systems that have been confirmed since I presented our initial budget request in February, and cautioned that this is not the time to chip away at our proposed defense budget. We also provided a classified briefing on the closely spaced basing concept which is being

SEC DEF

considered as a permanent, survivable basing mode for the MX missile. I reiterated our strong desire to report our recommendation by the December 1, 1982 target date which, understandably, the committee is anxious to receive.

Monday, the House approved and sent to the Senate a bill to provide for limited reorganization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. This bill was rushed through the House primarily as a courtesy to out-going Subcommittee Chairman Dick White of Texas, who is retiring at the end of this session. The White bill is a much watered down version of some of the major JCS reorganization proposals that have been proposed in recent months. The primary features of the proposal include a provision for the Chairman and individual Service Chiefs to provide dissenting opinions to you and to me on military matters, establishment of a fourstar Deputy Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, limits on the size of the staff to not more than four hundred, and establishment of a ten member Senior Strategy Advisory Board consisting of retired members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, or Unified or Specified Commanders. This latter provision is both unnecessary and potentially difficult.

In coordination with your Legislative Affairs team and the Cabinet Secretary, I have been very active personally calling House Members to seek support for the tax bill. In addition to contacting nearly all the Democrat members of the House Armed Services Committee, I found fertile ground among some Republicans. (U)

Visit of Liberian Head of State, Chairman Samuel K. Doe: On Thursday, I met with Chairman Doe at the Pentagon after he was accorded full military honors on the parade grounds. We spent about a half-hour discussing mutual U.S.-Liberian security issues. Chairman Doe made a strong plea for additional U.S. military assistance, to include trucks and other types of ground transportation vehicles, small arms and ammunition, communications equipment, and helicopters. After our meeting, Chairman Doe met with General Vessey and some of the members of the Joint Staff. (U)

Sectoral Implications of Defense Expenditures: You may recall that a March Department of Commerce draft report on sectoral implications of our defense buildup concluded that, by 1985, industrial bottlenecks might occur in some 13 sectors of the country. At the Cabinet Council on Economic Affairs (CCEA) meeting of March 9, the decision was fortunately made to have Commerce, along with Defense and the Council on Economic Affairs, reexamine this question and produce a final report.

This final report was submitted to the CCEA on August 13 and, I am pleased to report, presented a far more favorable view of industry's ability to respond to and meet Defense needs than the earlier report. It does, however, suggest that a slight possibility exists for difficulty in some industries.





For example, if we are unable to create the necessary industrial expansion in the future, then we might be forced to turn more to imports. I believe that such cases are unlikely to occur and that sufficient warning of impending problems will enable us to take corrective actions to counter them if they should.

Overall, I think the report gives our defense buildup efforts a clean bill of health as far as negative impact on the economy is concerned. Indeed, I believe that we can pursue our current Defense plans without fear of casting a shadow on the nation's economy, and that, having examined the question extensively, we can carefully monitor the impact of our expansion and act to avoid adverse efforts. (U)

Joint Cruise Missile Program: The Navy's Tomahawk program will provide the Navy with a long range strike weapon that can be launched from submarines, surface ships, and aircraft, with both conventional and nuclear warhead capability. The program is currently in the operational test and evaluation phase and will soon enter production. It has experienced some technical problems in the terminal test stage, primarily in reliability and manufacturability. We have thus completed a detailed review of the program and are taking actions to correct these problems. The program is developing two missile prime contractors, General Dynamics Convair and McDonnell Douglas Astronautics, with technical reciprocity arrangements, which will allow competition, and should significantly reduce costs. Both contractors have been directed to institute quality assurance improvements.

Rear Admiral Stephen J. Hostettler is expected to be named as the new Director of the Joint Cruise Missile Project Office (JCMPO) which is responsible for the development, testing, production, logistic support, and sustaining engineering effort for the several Navy and Air Force variants of the basic cruise missile. His assignment at this time is appropriate since the program is transitioning from development and testing status to the production phase. He would replace Admiral Locke. You may have read that he was removed from this command. There were a number of quality control problems, and we think we will achieve significantly better results from the change. (U)

Procurement of New Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS): Today, the Vought Corporation delivered the first of a currently planned 333 new Multiple Launch Rocket Systems. This event is significant primarily because it provides the U.S. Army its first new multiple rocket artillery capability since World War II.

The new rocket launcher carries 12 free-flight rockets that can be fired singly, or in rapid succession, expending its full load within one minute. The launcher is highly mobile and will greatly enhance the Army's artillery capability. Most gratifying is that the MLRS is being delivered on schedule, and careful management attention has resulted in a 12% decrease in program





acquisition costs during the past year. It also is noteworthy that the MLRS is a product of cooperative development and is being produced as a standard NATO weapon system under terms of our agreement with France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom, and Italy. (U)

Exercise REFORGER/CRESTED CAP 82: During the remainder of this month and next, we will deploy over 19,000 personnel and 29,000 tons of equipment to Europe in the combined Army and Air Force exercises, REFORGER and CRESTED CAP. These exercises, conducted annually in the Fall, are designed to practice and test our capability to respond quickly to crisis demands on the European Continent. They will include not only movement of troops and ground combat equipment, but tactical aircraft and sealift support ships as well.

After arriving in Europe, both the REFORGER and CRESTED CAP units will participate in the follow-on annual NATO-sponsored series of ground and air exercises, AUTUMN FORGE. This series is designed to improve and demonstrate Allied Command Europe solidarity and preparedness for mutual defense, to promote doctrine uniformity, and to standardize tactical procedures among participating nations.

We think that these exercises will contribute significantly to improving our management procedures for providing rapid response to military crisis situations. I will inform you of our progress during the course of these exercises and provide a wrap-up summary of their utility when they are completed. (U)

New Army Headquarters: On Monday, we announced plans to establish a new, small Army headquarters in Atlanta, Georgia, which will serve as the Army component headquarters for the Rapid Deployment Joint Task Force. The headquarters will be designated Headquarters Third U.S. Army and will be operational in the late fall. I am particularly pleased that a large number of personnel (about 1/3 in peacetime and over 1/2 during mobilization) manning the staff will be members of the Army Reserve. This utilization of Reserve personnel will take advantage of their special skills and expertise, substantially reduce manpower costs, and result in no increase in the Army's total force structure requirements. Because Headquarters, U.S. Army Forces Command (also located in Atlanta) is responsible for total Army readiness within the United States, the Deputy Commander of Forces Command also will serve as Commander, Third Army. (U)

NATIONAL JOURNAL Article: "Testing the Pentagon's Costly Weapons": The July 24 issue of National Journal contained an article that criticized various phases of our Defense weapon systems test program.

Reviewing the article's various program comments, it is clear that the large number of subjective judgments present highly





misleading implications. The fundamental issue is the independence of the testing organization, which is best determined by examining whether our decision process in the Department has been effective in identifying and minimizing risks at major program milestones. I have looked at four major ongoing programs (AEGIS, PERSHING II, AMRAAM, and MAVERICK) and find that, in each case, the assessments provided to the Defense Systems Acquisition Review Council (DSARC) and me by the Director, Defense Test and Evaluation have identified major issues and provided positive test and evaluation recommendations for fielding mission effective systems. I think our organizational structure for conducting weapon system tests and evaluations is quite good, and I'm sure we will continue to make appropriate decisions in the weapons system development process. (U)

Vietnamese Visit to Joint Casualty Resolution Center/Central Identification Laboratory (JCRC/CIL): The JCRC is a Joint Service organization responsible for field activities that investigate crash/grave sites of Americans missing in Indochina. Its personnel conduct the initial debriefing of refugees to obtain information on our missing men. The CIL is a U.S. Army unit responsible for identification of U.S. remains from Vietnam as well as from other wars in which the U.S. has been engaged.

During the period August 8-12, a five-man Vietnamese delegation visited the Joint Casualty Resolution Center and Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii and met with a U.S. delegation. Their visit consisted of tours and briefings at both JCRC and CIL, as well as technical discussions on the POW/MIA issue.

The Vietnamese were exposed to the procedures used by JCRC to account for our missing and were introduced to CIL procedures for identification of remains. During the discussions the Vietnamese announced they were prepared to turn over to the U.S. Government the remains of five U.S. servicemen lost in North Vietnam. We are presently working out the details of the repatriation of these remains. (C)

Maritime Pre-Positioning Ship Contracts Awarded: On Tuesday, we announced the award of contracts for six Maritime Pre-Positioning Ships (with options for seven additional) to General Dynamics-Quincy, Waterman Steamship Corporation, and Maersk Line, Limited. These ships will provide lift capability, area and volume capacity, maintenance facilities, and environmental preservation for unit equipment, vehicles, supplies, petroleum, and potable water for three Marine Amphibious Brigades of 16,000 men each. The ships will be self-sustaining and feature "roll-on/roll-off" and selective off-load capability for rapid movement of cargo either on-board or ashore.

General Dynamics will provide two new construction ships, to be built at Quincy, Massachusetts, while Waterman will convert an existing ship at San Diego and Maersk will also provide three conversions to be done at Sparrows Point, Maryland and Beaumont,





Texas. These ships will enhance significantly our capability to respond militarily to crisis contingencies in remote areas of the world. (U)

Saddlebunch Key Transmitting Facility: Having reviewed, in the spring of this year, the types of contingencies that we might experience in the Caribbean, we determined that a capability to conduct "psychological operations" radio broadcasts to the Cuban population was an urgent requirement. Accordingly, we elected to pursue establishment of a directional antenna system on Saddlebunch Key, Florida, that would give us broad radio coverage of the Cuban population without delay. Since that time we have constructed, tested and initiated tuning of the facility to ensure full contingency capability and compliance with FCC directional transmission requirements. I am pleased to report that, at this time, the facility does, indeed, meet essential military contingency requirements, and with a few additional tuning adjustments will meet FCC requirements with regard to potential interference. Following completion of system tuning, the transmitter facility will remain in place in a standby status until needed for operational use or until we have completed arrangements for peacetime civilian use.





Sent to California with morning sky. **MEMORANDUM** 

# SECRET



## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

SECRET ATTACHMENT

August 27, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

WILLIAM P. CLARK

SUBJECT:

Secretary Weinberger's Weekly Report

Attached is Cap Weinberger's Weekly Report dated August 27, 1982.

cc: The Vice President
Ed Meese
Jim Baker
Mike Deaver





WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

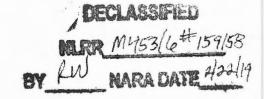
159158



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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

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I wrote the letter because of the basically irresponsible journalism in the writing of news stories regarding our policy on nuclear weapons. These stories were invariably inaccurate and undeniably misrepresented our policies to the American public and our allies and adversaries abroad. I felt that it was important to set the record straight regarding this most important aspect of national security policy by explaining, as clearly as I could, our program to maintain a nuclear deterrent and thus to avoid war. I hope that some of the previous misperceptions of our policy will be eliminated as a result of writing the story in the form of a letter instead of seeing the facts so twisted on this vital matter.

Early returns from both U.S. and European media show mostly accurate reporting with positive editorials. While I can't guarantee that this nettlesome topic will die down, some of our friends in Europe have characterized the reaction among the informed public as reassuring. (U)

Meeting with Israeli Minister of Defense Sharon: As you know, Defense Minister Sharon of Israel advised through the Israeli Ambassador on Thursday that he would like to see me on Friday. This morning we had our meeting. He said he had no agenda, but that he happened to have brought along some maps which he used to give a full report on their military campaign. He said he



had been misunderstood about how far they needed to go from their Northern Border. It was really 50 kilometers, and they were only a bit beyond that now. He said Israeli forces in Lebanon would not attack Syrian army units deployed in that country but would wait for a politically negotiated settlement for the withdrawal, and that Israeli forces will not withdraw from Lebanon until Syrian forces are removed.

On the topic of lessons and tactics that were used during the war, Sharon stated that these would not be shared with the U.S. until current "sanctions" by the U.S. against Israel are lifted. He specifically used the hold up of the F-16 follow-on buy as an example of these sanctions. I told him that if we had Israel under sanctions, we were doing an exceptionally poor job of it! I then read him the long list of all the items that had been shipped since June 6, and he finally had the grace to smile, and Ambassador Arens laughed out loud.

Sharon also said that under no circumstances would Israel even consent to a Palestinian State. He said they could have autonomy but that, "We (Israel) would have to handle all of their security affairs." He then asked for a one-on-one with me, and at that time asked if my visit to Israel would be an "official one." I said I assumed so since I was responding to the official invitation they extended several months ago. At this point he beamed all over and said that was the thing he had been most worried about. I do not pretend to have an explanation for that! (S)

B-1B Strategic Aircraft Update: An Air Force B-1 strategic aircraft will depart shortly for the Farnborough, England Air Show, where it will be on display September 1-12. Upon its return, the aircraft will land here at Andrews and remain for the period September 13-17 so interested Congressmen and others can see it. This B-1 is the fourth unit produced in the original B-1 program. While it appears outwardly as 90% similar to the B-1B we are now building, the B-1Bs will be significantly different in capability and avionics and in weapons carried. Because of the complexities involved in screening personnel boarding the aircraft, we decided not to allow any visitors aboard at Farnborough. Selected visitors will, of course, be welcome here at Andrews.

Our B-1B program, I am happy to report, is going very well. A year into the program, all four of our system contractors (Rockwell International, General Electric, Boeing and AIL Division of Eaton Corp.) are on schedule and within budget. Rockwell, the prime contractor, stays 1-3 months ahead of schedule, with the remaining three close behind. I believe that these indications bode well for the overall program, and that we can look forward to the deployment of these critically





important strategic aircraft on time and well within our budget.

We keep a very close eye on it. I meet with the Program Chiefs every two weeks, and at the slightest sign of trouble I look for the cause so we can eliminate it. (C)

Legislative Affairs: Congressman White, responding to a letter from Melvin Price, has initiated an inquiry by the House Investigations Subcommittee into allegations of improper conduct on the part of Department of Defense officials in support of the procurement of the C-5B and B-lB aircraft, and the sale of the Airborne Warning and Control (AWACS) aircraft to Saudi Arabia.

The inquiry hearings are tentatively scheduled for September 14 and 15, with September 16 as a carry-over date. In preparation for the hearings, we have been requested to provide the Subcommittee with any documents which had as a purpose the influencing of any Member of Congress to favor or oppose any of the programs in question. We are collecting and submitting the requested information now and participating in pre-hearing discussions as well. We will, of course, continue to cooperate with the Subcommittee in every possible way.

The C-5 portion of this inquiry grew out of Boeing's attempts to sell their 747 for airlift and our reports to the Congress that we could not use and did not want 747s because they could not carry our larger cargoes. When the Congressional tide turned against them, Boeing tried to force an "investigation" of those opposing them. We have no idea why the committees included B-1 and AWACS procurement. There have never been any complaints about them before so far as we know. (U)

Sale of E-2C Aircraft to Egypt: Shortly after we had a request from the Egyptian Ministry of Defense for a letter of offer on four E-2C aircraft, we initiated, through State, the required notification to Congress of our intent to pursue such a sale. The E-2C is an airborne early warning aircraft with similar capabilities to the AWACS, but it is smaller in size and flown from carriers by our Navy. The aircraft has an excellent capability to detect and track hostile aircraft and provide controlling instructions to friendly interceptors. The Israelis have had these aircraft for several years. The E-2Cs will significantly enhance Egyptian capability to defend her own territory against airborne intrusion and the sale will contribute in a positive way to U.S.-Egyptian relations. (C)

New Arms Sales to Taiwan: Following up on our successful military-to-military talks with Taiwan last week, Defense convened an interagency working group on Monday to consider Taiwan's list of defense needs. Six items on the list quickly





won working group approval and have since been formally endorsed by State: (1) approval in principle to sell four fixed three-dimensional air defense radar (Taiwan's number 3 priority), value estimated at \$72 million; letters of offer to sell: (2) 60 MK-46 antisubmarine torpedoes (priority 12); (3) 54 ASROC antisubmarine rockets (priority 13); and (4) a VULCAN/PHALANX radar-controlled gun (priority 15); total value of the three systems is approximately \$36 million; (5) an export license for two LOROP aerial cameras (priority 27), valued at \$11 million; and (6) approval in principle to sell nine 5"/54 gun mounts, which Taiwan will put on the PRG-type ships it has in design. On August 25, the Taiwan delegation was informed of these favorable decisions by AIT Director David Dean. We will continue to examine other items and request State approval for those recommended. (S)

PERSHING II Test Flight Failure: After extensive analysis of the initial test flight failure of the PERSHING II missile launched at Cape Canaveral on July 22, the investigating team has determined that the failure resulted from a leak in the first stage motor case. The leak, in the forward end of the motor case, released extremely hot, high pressure gas from the burning solid propellant of the first stage motor into the interstage area between the first and second stages. The second stage of the missile, prematurely ignited by the failure of the first stage, was intentionally and properly destroyed by the Range Safety Officer through activation of a built-in destruct package. We believe that we have identified the cause of the motor case leak, that the problem is not a basic design flaw, and that we can correct the problem without great difficulty. While this initial test flight failure means a delay in the second test flight until late October, we currently do not anticipate any delay in the PERSHING II deployment schedule to Germany. (C)

Establishment of Organization for NATO Summit Follow-up: At the NATO Defense Ministers' meeting in May, I proposed that NATO undertake, on an urgent basis, a study on exploiting new technologies to improve NATO's conventional defense capability. I also offered to provide a paper on the application of these new technologies to conventional defense. You, of course, provided a needed boost for this effort when you stated in Bonn that you considered the Summit document on defense a mandate for action to improve NATO's conventional defense capabilities.

Because the possible adaptations of new technologies to conventional defense span virtually the entire spectrum of air, land, and sea warfare, and because a great deal of study already has been devoted to many of these adaptations, we established a special task force within the Department to produce the





more of their M-48 tanks to the A-5 configuration. This modification increases their gun size from 90 to 105 millimeters, giving them a badly needed armor piercing capability against the Soviet T-72 tank. Additional improvements are gun turret system upgrades, a new electrical power package, modernized fire-control electronics, and engine and cooling system improvements.

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DECLASSIFIED

Sec.3.4(b), E.O. 12953, as amonded

White House Guidelines, Sopt. 11, 2006
BY NARA RW., DATE 5/9/13





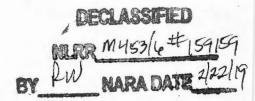
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required document. This task force is underway, and I hope it will produce a convincing case to motivate our Allies to develop and use these new capabilities made possible through advanced technology. The ultimate objective is, of course, to produce systematic plans to produce the highest pay-offs in improved NATO conventional defense. (C)

Meeting with Danish Minister of Defense Søgaard: On Monday, I met with Danish Minister of Defense Poul Søgaard. Our main topics of discussion were Intermediate Nuclear Forces and Strategic Arms Reduction Talks. I explained our position in detail, stressing the importance of Allied determination to go ahead with both modernization and negotiation, in keeping with the 1979 NATO decision. Minister Spaard explained that while the peace movement in Denmark is strong, the Danish people are also aware of the great difficulty we have in persuading the Soviets to negotiate seriously and sincerely, in part due to the lack of a grassroots peace movement in the Soviet Union Finally, he told me that, notwithstanding the change to home-rule in Greenland, there is no indication that Greenland will change its general pro-Alliance position. I believe our meeting was worthwhile, and I think Minister Søgaard left with a better appreciation of our position regarding deterrence and arms negotiations. (S)

Exercise NORTHERN WEDDING 82: During the period September 6-17, we will participate in Exercise NORTHERN WEDDING 82, a major NATO naval and amphibious warfare exercise in the North Atlantic. The exercise will concentrate on the threat posed by Soviet units that can be brought to bear against the Atlantic sea lines of communication, with emphasis on the Soviet submarine threat in the Greenland-Iceland-United Kingdom (G-I-UK) gap. It will include coordinated air, surface and submarine operations. In addition to some 28 U.S. Navy ships, over 200 U.S. aircraft and almost 25,000 personnel, the exercise will involve allied units from the United Kingdom, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, The Netherlands, and Norway.

During the exercise we will seek to improve our readiness and capability to employ NATO forces in virtually all naval warfare areas with concentrated effort in the fundamental warfare tasks—anti—air, anti—surface, anti—submarine, amphibious, and mine warfare. We anticipate significant public interest both here and in Europe, and we will tell the media about it through press conferences today in London, Brussels, Copenhagen, Lisbon, and Norfolk. (C)

Turkish Tank Program: One of the greatest problems facing the NATO Alliance is the critical need for modernization of the Armed Forces of most member nations. In this regard, I currently expect the Government of Turkey to sign a letter of agreement to procure an additional 518 modification kits for upgrading





more of their M-48 tanks to the A-5 configuration. This modification increases their gun size from 90 to 105 millimeters, giving them a badly needed armor piercing capability against the Soviet T-72 tank. Additional improvements are gun turret system upgrades, a new electrical power package, modernized fire-control electronics, and engine and cooling system improvements.

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## 20

## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

### SECRET ATTACHMENT

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September 4, 1982

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SUBJECT:

Secretary Weinberger's Weekly Report

Attached is Cap Weinberger's Weekly Report dated September 4, 1982.

cc: The Vice President Ed Meese

Jim Baker Mike Deaver





WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

159160

NLRR MU53/6 #159/16D
BY (W) NARADATE 1/26/16

82 SEP 4 A10: 04

September 4, 1982

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Weekly Report of Defense Activities

Economies and Efficiencies: Immediately upon assuming office in January 1981 you announced a firm commitment to restore our vital defense capability which had eroded over two decades of inadequate commitment of resources and management resolve. In the ensuing months, we believe we have removed many of those inadequacies, and I believe we have made significant progress.

In an effort to increase economies and efficiencies we also have conducted a comprehensive review of impediments to more efficient defense operations. I won't discuss the list of impediments in detail, but they range from statutes, and numerous Congressional prohibitions on management reorganization of multi-service logistics commands and restrictions on contract award methodology to direct regulation of recruiting standards and management of program acquisition procedures. We will be looking carefully at all of these impediments in future months with a view toward working with the Congress and other Executive Agencies to eliminate them or, at least, to minimize their effect. (U)

Navy F-18 Price Negotiations: You may have read media accounts regarding Secretary John Lehman's statements on F-18 contract negotiations with McDonnell Douglas and Northrop in which he indicated the Navy may cancel its contract if current contractor price quotations are not lowered. Frank and I do indeed support the Navy in seeking a lower price for these aircraft and are hopeful that such an agreement can be reached. This situation is fairly unique in that we rarely are blessed with alternatives as attractive as the possible follow-on buys of F-14 and A-6 aircraft if we cannot achieve overall increased capabilities at an economical price through the F-18 purchase. Our preference, of course, is to continue with the F-18 purchase but it is reassuring to know that an alternative is available if we cannot reach an acceptable agreement. (U)

Military Payroll: As you are aware, we were able to make the August 31 military payroll in full and on time by deferring Social Security and tax deposits to the Treasury. However, residual cash balances will be insufficient in several military pay accounts to meet the September 15 payroll. Unless funds

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are forthcoming from an acceptable Congressional Pay Supplemental, many of our uniformed personnel will not be payed on that date. This would be the first time since the 1930s that our services have not been payed on time. In order to make a payroll on the 15th, final action on supplemental funds would be required by September 10th due to the mechanics of payroll preparation. (U)

Progress in People Programs: From the beginning of your Administration we have been working on three major people-oriented problems. These include improvements in readiness and sustainability, making the All Volunteer Force work, and the need to improve working and living conditions for our people, particularly overseas. I am extremely pleased to report that we have indeed made significant progress in each of these areas.

We have improved both materiel and personnel readiness. Maintenance backlogs that we faced in 1981 have been reduced significantly; our mission capable rates are higher than they were and I believe that we will continue to increase them. Our active and reserve component manpower levels are up, and we are eliminating many grade and skill shortages.

Our current five year program will increase our sustainability significantly. Thanks largely to the increases in FY 1981 and 1982, our days of munitions supply in FY 1983-1987 should be about 10 percent greater than they would have been under the Carter plan. Our supplies of spares and other consumables will also be greater.

The All Volunteer Force is increasingly viable. The quality of our people is up significantly; they are happy with their lives in the military, and we expect to retain as many as we need. This success means that our military forces generally will be more able to accomplish their combat missions.

We are also making progress in improving the working and living conditions of our military people. Our backlog of military construction is reduced each year and the backlog of maintenance and repair is declining. These are significant improvements over previous programs which produced only increasing backlogs. With continued attention to these programs and increased emphasis on people-oriented problem areas I expect to see continued improvement in our military combat capability. (U)

Manpower Assessment: We are extremely pleased with the results of our recruiting efforts in recent months. Our active force strength as of June 30 was 2,107,400. This was 100% of our planned strength level for that time.

Particularly noteworthy is that over 82 percent of all nonprior service accessions had high school diplomas compared to 76 percent for the first nine months of FY 1981. Entrance test scores also increased with 88 percent scoring in the average or





above average categories on the armed forces qualification test compared to 83 percent last year. Reenlistment rates also continue above the FY 1981 levels with 72 percent of those eligible choosing to reenlist, compared to 61 percent in FY 1981.

These overall improvements are largely a result of improvements in the Army. During the first nine months of FY 1982, the Army enlisted 105 percent of its FY 1982 objective. Eighty-two percent of the Army accessions had high school diplomas (up from 72 percent in FY 1981) and 81 percent scored average or above average on the qualification test (compared to 72 percent last year). Army reenlistment rates continue to be significantly higher, with 77 percent of those eligible electing to reenlist, compared to 70 percent this time last year.

The other three services also met or exceeded their overall enlistment objectives and their quality achievements were as good or better than the same time last year. I believe that these trends continue to indicate that FY 1982 will be a better year than FY 1981, which was the best recruiting and retention year since the inception of the All Volunteer Force. (U)

Ship and Aircraft Material Condition Improvements: A direct result of the retention improvements discussed above has been significant improvement in the material condition of our military hardware. This was most readily seen in operating units of our Seventh Fleet in the Western Pacific during a recent visit by some of our Defense personnel who were briefed on greatly improved results of recent inspections of the material condition of ship propulsion equipment and spaces. The reports of these inspections are more positive than any we have seen in many years. For the first time in ages the Navy is even considering delaying some overhauls due to improved conditions. This is almost unprecedented; all too often in the past ships have barely made it from overhaul to overhaul. The end result, of course, will be that our ships and aircraft will be able to perform more capably in combat and beyond the period when we otherwise would have been forced to retire them.

My Trip to the Middle East: You will have seen my reporting cables and those of Ambassadors Dillon, Lewis and Atherton on my trip, so I will not repeat those here. Suffice it to say the trip seems to be going well. The Israelis were quite cordial, except for Prime Minister Begin's reaction to your initiative, a reaction which is strongly criticized by some in Israel, and several here in Egypt. Overall, I would say the reaction to your initiative has been excellent. (S)

