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Report (11/10/1984-12/07/1984)

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Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT, NSC: AGENCY FILE

Withdrawer

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5/22/2013

File Folder

SECRETARY WEINBERGER'S WEEKLY REPORT

(11/10/1984-12/07/1984)

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ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
159759	MEMO	CASPAR WEINBERGER TO RR RE. WEEKLY REPORT OF DEFENSE ACTIVITIES [COPY OF DOC. 159758] PAR 17/12/2012 M453/7	4	11/9/1984	B1
159758	MEMO	CASPAR WEINBERGER TO RR RE. WEEKLY REPORT OF DEFENSE ACTIVITIES	4	11/9/1984	B1
		PAR 12/22/2022 M453/7			
159760	MEMO	CASPAR WEINBERGER TO RR RE. WEEKLY REPORT OF DEFENSE ACTIVITIES	5	11/16/1984	B1
159761	MEMO	CASPAR WEINBERGER TO RR RE. WEEKLY REPORT OF DEFENSE ACTIVITIES		11/23/1984	B1
159762	MEMO	CASPAR WEINBERGER TO RR RE. WEEKLY REPORT OF DEFENSE ACTIVITIES [COPY OF DOC. 159763 PG. 1 ONLY]	1	11/30/1984	· B1
159763	MEMO	CASPAR WEINBERGER TO RR RE. WEEKLY REPORT OF DEFENSE ACTIVITIES	5	11/30/1984	B1
		D 8/22/2016 M453/7			

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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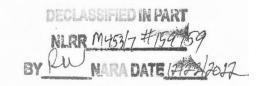
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

159759

WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



November 9, 1984



MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Weekly Report of Defense Activities (U)

Congratulations from the Men and Women of the Department of Defense (DoD): The men and women of DoD, who are proud to have served with you during the past four years, send you their heartiest congratulations on the resounding endorsement the American people have given your policies. They and I are excited about the prospects for the future that will result from your next four years as President and Commander-in-Chief.

I gave you my personal congratulations Tuesday night in Los Angeles. I can only add that after nineteen years of working with you and seeing you in action, I continue to be delighted and deeply gratified with the leadership, and the new and far better ideas you have given to the nation, and, I have to add, at the way you have continuously confounded your critics and the conventional wisdom. (U)

Visit to Fort Irwin, California: On Wednesday, right after I left you at your Los Angeles press conference, I visited the Army's National Training Center (NTC) at Fort Irwin near Barston, California. The NTC consists of over 600,000 acres of high desert that the Army has converted into a fully instrumented combat range. Every mechanized and tank battalion in the United States is rotated through the NTC for some of the most realistic field training in the world. The Army has an aggressor battalion permanently stationed at Irwin that is organized, equipped, and trained to provide a chilling representation of what a Soviet force might look like. The NTC has live-fire ranges, which permit whole battalions to attack and defend using all of their weapons exactly as they would in combat. The entire range is instrumented to provide participating units a report on their performance. I was especially impressed by the quality, morale, fitness, and motivation of our soldiers training at the NTC. I am sure you would be enormously encouraged if you could see the men and this installation. (U)

Voting Assistance Program: All indications are that our voting assistance program produced record participation by DoD personnel in this year's election. In some last minute

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It is my personal assessment that you probably received about 90 percent of this vote, although, of course, we will not and should not survey that ourselves. (U)

Meeting with Ambassador Abshire: In my meeting on Monday with Ambassador Abshire we discussed the prospects for significant improvements in NATO's conventional forces. Ambassador Abshire was optimistic about the short term prospects, less so about the long term. We expect the Defense Planning Committee (DPC) Ministerial meeting next month to endorse: (1) a large increase in the NATO Infrastructure Program over the next six years, (2) somewhat higher priority for shelters for reinforcement aircraft, and (3) progress in increasing war reserve stocks of ammunition. A special additional program for aircraft shelters probably will not be possible until after NATO is well settled on the new higher Infrastructure ceiling, but we can, of course, raise the priority of aircraft shelters in the spending of the new higher Infrastructure funds.

For the longer term, Dave Abshire would like to see greater discussion of NATO military issues with the Foreign Ministers' side of the Alliance, and with Cabinet-level officials in capitals. He believes that in this way we can build a solid Alliance consensus on the threat and the need to counter it. I agree that we should exploit this potential, while taking care to watch and control the process to avoid misleading intelligence estimates or labels, such as the contention that there is a "slow-down" in the Soviet buildup. I emphasized that whatever spending trends some see at the moment, the Soviets start from an enormous base, vastly higher than ours, and are continuing to acquire many more major items of equipment than we are. I noted my intention to produce a new version of our booklet Soviet Military Power next spring and to give it the widest possible distribution.

With regard to Secretary General Carrington's approach to NATO's longer range problems, I expressed understanding for the Secretary's concern that too much concentration on the longer term aspects of conventional defense could interfere with achieving real progress in the short term, which Lord Carrington deems essential to meet political (Congressional) concerns.



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Defense Intelligence Analysis Center: The last Defense
Intelligence Agency (DIA) element has moved into the recently
completed Defense Intelligence Analysis Center at Bolling Air
Force Base.

Exercise MOROCCAN AIREX: MOROCCAN AIREX was conducted last Saturday and Sunday off the northeastern coast of Morocco. This was an air defense exercise with U.S. Naval and Moroccan forces participating. The purpose of the exercise was to permit operations, training, and testing of air defense and strike tactics in a realistic environment. For this exercise we used a low-key public information policy that deferred to Morocco the issuing of statements about the exercise. (C)

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Exercise NARROW PASSAGE 85: Today we began NARROW PASSAGE 85, a special operations field training exercise conducted in Kenya and involving U.S. and Kenyan forces. The exercise will include airborne and ground operations and is designed to improve our capability to deploy and employ small special operations forces over great distances. NARROW PASSAGE is intended to be a low-visibility exercise with no public announcements; it will end December 3. (S)

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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

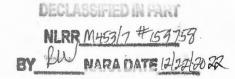
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M453

12/07/1984)

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ID	Document Type	No of Doc Date	Restric-
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159760 MEMO

5 11/16/1984 B1

CASPAR WEINBERGER TO RR RE. WEEKLY REPORT OF DEFENSE ACTIVITIES

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

159764



WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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December 7, 1984

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Weekly Report of Defense Activities (U)

General: I have just met with Prime Minister Thatcher in London on my way back from Saudi Arabia. Yesterday I met with King Fahd and Prince Sultan in Saudi Arabia following my attendance at the NATO Defense Planning Committee meeting in Brussels. I have already sent you separate reporting cables on the Saudi visit, and you will be receiving a reporting cable on my visit with the Prime Minister. (U)

NATO Defense Planning Committee Meeting: We had good success at the NATO Defense Planning Committee Ministerial Meeting that I attended in Brussels on Tuesday and Wednesday. We agreed on a much larger Infrastructure Program—almost \$8 billion over the next six years with the possibility of a further increase after a mid-term review. This sum will ensure substantial progress in building shelters and other essential facilities to receive U.S. reinforcement aircraft in Europe during a war or crisis. The Ministers also pledged to accelerate procurement of critical ammunition stocks to improve the sustainability of Alliance conventional forces.

For the longer term, the Ministers gave Lord Carrington and the Permanent Representatives a mandate to organize a coherent Alliance approach to conventional force improvements. Added resources are not assured, but the Ministers did agree that the new endeavor should include "Alliance-wide efforts to make the necessary resources available." All in all, I believe these steps put us in a significantly stronger position to deal with the Congress regarding any unhelpful legislative proposals next year.

Regarding INF deployments, I confirmed to the Ministers that Soviet SS-20 launchers had increased from 378 to 387, with a strong possibility of more to come.

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WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

December 7, 1984

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Deputy Secretary Taft's Meeting with U.K. Minister of State for Defence Procurement: Will Taft met on Tuesday with Adam Butler, the new United Kingdom Minister of State for Defence Procurement. Mr. Butler reaffirmed U.K. determination to continue with the TRIDENT, despite considerable political pressures from the Opposition and Tory backbenchers over the cost of the program and a possible resulting decrease in conventional capabilities. He also indicated that there is likely to be zero real growth in the U.K. defense budget beyond FY 1985-1986. Will pointed out that reduced growth in allied defense spending lends support to those who favor the Nunn Amendment. Mr. Butler also reported in rather glowing terms the progress he believes the Independent European Program Group is making in fostering intra-European arms cooperation. (U)

Visit to the United States by Navy Delegation from the People's Republic of China (PRC): A 12 man PRC Navy delegation headed by Chen Youming, Chief of the Navy Equipment Department of the People's Liberation Army, is currently in the United States for meetings and discussions with DoD on naval surface warfare technology. The delegation arrived in Washington on November 11 and conducted two and one-half weeks of talks with DoD and State Department representatives in the Pentagon before traveling to various military and contractor facilities. The PRC Defense Minister's son, Zhang Pin, is the deputy leader of the delegation. The Chinese Navy delegation will return to Washington for three days of talks next week before departing for China. (S)

Increase in Congressional Action Requirements: As you know, many Congressional committee reports on the DoD authorization and appropriation bills contain requirements for action by DoD. Some of these actions are quite simple, while others require that a complex report or study be furnished Congress. These Congressional directions have increased significantly over the past 15 years.

For example, the number of reports and studies requested has increased from 36 in FY 1970 to 458 in FY 1985, an increase of almost 1200 percent. To illustrate, this year a single Congressional staff member was able to get 32 reporting requirements included in his section of a committee report. The number of line item dollar adjustments to our budget request has also increased substantially over the same period--184 percent in the appropriation bills, and 631 percent in the authorization bills; the latter increase was due largely to the increased extent of authorization coverage.

Additionally, the number of statutory provisions affecting us in their bills also has increased by 233 percent, despite our





annual recommendation that many of these statutory provisions be deleted. Many of the general statutes impose burdensome restrictions and limitations on the Department, all of which are legally binding.

In spite of the tremendous workload imposed by these requirements, Congress continues to reduce our headquarters staffing as well as cut our request for funds to conduct such studies and analyses. For some reason, they fail to recognize the inordinate amount of time and effort that must be devoted to these studies. This failure can have important effects, as illustrated by Senator Goldwater's comments to the press this week about favoring reductions in the size of the Pentagon staff.

When I testify before the Armed Services and Appropriations Committees on the FY 1986 Defense Posture, I will point this out and seek their cooperation in scaling back the number of directed actions. (U)

Assignment of the C-5 GALAXY to the Air Force Reserve: Last Saturday we ushered in a new era in Reserve force readiness with the arrival at Kelly Air Force Base, Texas of the first C-5 aircraft to be assigned to an Air Force Reserve unit. You may recall that Reserve crews have been flying the C-5, but these have been "associate" wings in which the aircraft were assigned to and maintained by active units.

General Thomas Ryan, CINCMAC, flew the C-5 into Kelly where the new C-5 unit, the 433rd Military Airlift Wing, held a welcoming ceremony for local civic leaders, congressmen, and members of the wing. (U)

Radioactive Waste Shipments: A recent inspection by the Department of Transportation of a radioactive waste disposal contractor revealed that some shippers were not in compliance with federal regulations governing the shipment of hazardous materials. The Army, in order to correct this situation, is intensively reviewing its training requirements, regulations, and quality control procedures. This concerted effort will strengthen compliance with federal regulations for the shipment of hazardous materials. (U)

Exercise AFRICAN EAGLE 84: Last Saturday we began AFRICAN EAGLE 84, which is a small-scale semiannual exercise conducted in northern Morocco. The purpose of this exercise is to provide air defense training for the Moroccan air defense system and to conduct dissimilar air combat tactics training between forces of the U.S. Air Force and the Royal Moroccan Air Force. The exercise will end December 14. (C)



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Exercise VIGILANT OVERVIEW 85-1: VIGILANT OVERVIEW began Tuesday and ended today. This was a worldwide space and missile warning command post exercise involving the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, and Australia. Its purpose was to exercise NORAD and supporting commands in the detection of objects, processing of data, and generation of tactical warning and attack assessment information. Procedures associated with appropriate operation plans were also exercised, and a scenario leading to and including simulated nuclear attack was used. (S)



