

6/2/77 [2]

Folder Citation: Collection: Office of Staff Secretary; Series: Presidential Files; Folder: 6/2/77 [2]; Container 23

To See Complete Finding Aid:

http://www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov/library/findingaids/Staff_Secretary.pdf

NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE
WITHDRAWAL SHEET (PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES)

| FORM OF DOCUMENT | CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE | DATE | RESTRICTION |
|------------------|--|--------------------|-------------|
| memo w/att. | From W. Bowman Cutter to Vice President <u>et. al</u> (147 pp.) re: supporting materials for review of 1979 Defense budget issues | 6/2/77 | A |
| memo | From Harold Brown to The President (3 pp.) re: Significant Actions of the DoD June 21-26 enclosed in Hutcheson to Brzezinski 6/2/77 <p style="text-align: center; color: blue;">OPENED 8/13/93</p> | 5/26/77 | A |

FILE LOCATION
 Carter Presidential Papers-Staff Offices, Office of the Staff Sec.- Presidential Handwriting File 6/2/77 [2] Box 30

RESTRICTION CODES

-) Closed by Executive Order 12356 governing access to national security information.
-) Closed by statute or by the agency which originated the document.
-) Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in the donor's deed of gift.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 2, 1977

Z. Brzezinski -

The attached was returned in the
President's outbox and is forwarded
to you for forwarding the President's
comments to Secretary Brown.

Rick Hutcheson

cc: Frank Moore

~~SECRET~~ ATTACHMENT

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

cc Brown (via ZB)
F Moore

~~SECRET~~

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

C

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.

May 26, 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Significant Actions, Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Defense
(June 21-26, 1977)

Blue Ribbon Panel: Charles Duncan and I have discussed the Blue Ribbon Panel on Military Compensation with Charles Zwick. He now is looking for an executive director and arranging staff support, some of which will be provided by this Department. As we discussed on the phone, the Panel is now aiming at a completion nine months hence, or March 15, and Zwick is confident that that date can be met.

Helicopter Training Consolidation: We propose to save \$20M or more annually by consolidating helicopter pilot training at Fort Rucker, Alabama. This would remove Navy training from Whiting Field in Representative Bob Sikes' district. Representative Sikes is working hard to have the Congress prevent the consolidation. Charles Duncan's contacts this week with Congressional leaders indicate that they recognize that the consolidation makes good economic sense. However, several key members of both houses are indebted to Sikes for past favors, and state frankly that they will not oppose him on this issue. Last year Sikes arranged defeat of the same proposal in the House Appropriations Committee. While the full House voted in favor of the consolidation, the Senate sided with Sikes and the proposal was returned to DoD for further study. Charles Duncan and the Service Secretaries will be testifying on the proposal before the Defense Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee on June 7. They will continue to emphasize the substantial cost savings and efficiencies of the proposed consolidation.

*good -
9/11 help
if needed*

Richards-Gebaur AFB Closure: On May 24 the Air Force announced the decision to close Richards-Gebaur Air Force Base, Missouri -- an action which will result in savings of approximately 1500 manpower spaces (800 military and 700 civilian) and reduce costs by some \$19M annually. Senator Eagleton and other members of the Missouri delegation, in initial private reactions, seem resigned to the fact that the base must be closed in the interest of good management. Some local residents may try to block it by litigation, but their chances of success are regarded as small.

Minuteman III Production Options: In a comment to my May 6 weekly summary, you directed that we not vary from agreed '78 decisions on Minuteman III without your personal approval. I have late yesterday signed a memorandum to you with detailed options on MM III and a recommendation which would retain the capability to produce guidance sets for as long as possible with

Classified by Sec Def
EXEMPT FROM GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE OF
EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652. EXEMPTION CATEGORY 3
DECLASSIFY ON 31Dec2007

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4
PER 6/17/93 DOD HV RE MR-NLC-91-76
BY Jay NARS, DATE 7/19/93

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

2

the least possible budget turbulence. The guidance sets are the most critical item in terms of preserving force capability after the Minuteman III line is shut down. They also have a potential for retrofit into Minuteman II.

National Press Club Speech: Yesterday, I spoke and answered questions at a National Press Club luncheon. Questions covered a wide gamut of Defense affairs, including NATO, SALT, base realignment, and Korea (including two on the Singlaub matter). I emphasized your desire to strengthen NATO conventional defenses.

Congressional Activities -- Carriers: Graham Claytor and I appeared before the House Armed Services Committee on Tuesday to request reconsideration of their decision blocking design work on the CVV. They denied it again. Failure to allow us to proceed on preliminary design work on the CVV will delay that carrier program or any other option as well, since I do not intend to approve any carrier program without having a fully designed CVV as an option.

Congressional Activities -- Reorganization: Charles Duncan testified before a House Armed Services Subcommittee on Monday in support of legislation implementing the reorganization of the Office of the Secretary of Defense. We are informed that the Senate Armed Services Committee will report out the bill favorably today without requiring a hearing.

Talks with Crown Prince Fahd: My meeting with Crown Prince Fahd on Tuesday went well. He emphasized (as he did with you, and at your dinner for him) that Saudi Arabia is definitely a friend of the United States and that U.S. security assistance is used for defensive purposes only. He indicated that they have a list of items we had earlier agreed to provide which have been held up bureaucratically and asked for my help in breaking things loose. In response, I reaffirmed our commitment, indicated that we were now three years into a ten-year plan agreed to in 1974, and suggested that we might jointly review the plan this year. He argued, however, against any review prior to clearing up the existing items. I assured him that we would honor our commitments and would seek Congressional approval to provide the Saudis with whichever advanced fighter they decide to purchase as replacement for their current Lightning force -- probably the F-16, though I said they might want to compare the F-15 and F-16 again.

Antideficiency Act Violations: I share fully the concern you expressed in your memorandum of Monday on violations of the Antideficiency Act by Department of Defense components. Charles Duncan will be responding in detail to Bert Lance on the results of a review we have underway to determine what management changes may be required. Charles will personally ensure full support and timely liaison with Bert and his staff.

General Singlaub: After testifying yesterday before Representative Stratton's investigations subcommittee, General Singlaub returned this morning to Korea via military aircraft. We plan to announce tomorrow afternoon his next assignment, which will be Deputy Commander of the III Corps at Fort Hood,

*Why the
change
to Ft M C?*

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

3

Texas. Stratton has said that he may want to call more witnesses on Korea, perhaps including Generals Brown and Vessey. Senator Stennis made an eloquent statement on the floor yesterday supporting the action taken with respect to Singlaub; I thanked him this morning for having done so.

Discharge Review Program: The discharge review program as of May 24 after seven weeks of operation had elicited 35,504 applications. Of those, 22,084 -- about two-thirds -- were from holders of undesirable discharges (the only administrative discharges which entail loss of veterans benefits). About two-thirds of those are eligible for consideration under the special criteria of the program. For comparison, the Ford clemency program, at its conclusion, had had a response of 20% from the eligible population. So far we have heard from nearly 9% of the Vietnam era veterans with undesirable discharges, with applications continuing. The Department's administration of the program is going smoothly, but we are told that some veterans have held off applying because of a rumor that the Veterans Administration intends to deny benefits to persons whose discharges were upgraded under the program. On Tuesday, representatives of my office met with Margaret McKenna and VA representatives to ask that Max Cleland issue a strong reassurance on that point, both to the public and to persons in the VA organization. (Once veterans with upgraded discharges begin applying for and receiving benefits, it will be less likely that members of Congress would try to block similar treatment of subsequent applicants. 4,948 discharges have been upgraded under the program so far.)

Harold Brown

~~SECRET~~