

Date July 8, 1976

The Honorable  
Donald Rumsfeld  
United States Secretary of Defense  
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr Secretary,

On your kind invitation the Norwegian Defense Review Commission visited the United States from June 21 through June 28, 1976. The Commission was given the opportunity to meet with leading officials in the departments of Defense and State, and received thorough and comprehensive briefings on security and defense problems of mutual interests to our countries. During the following extensive tour of military and civilian establishments in the USA (to SACLANT in Norfolk, US Marine Corps in North Carolina, US Military Airlift Command at Scott AFB Illinois, Strategic Air Command at Offutt AFB Nebraska, to General Dynamics in Fort Worth Texas, and Rand Corporation in Santa Monica California), we were given highly interesting and informative briefings and demonstrations of particular interest to the Commission. I can assure you, Mr Secretary, that we left the United States very much impressed by the high professional standards of your forces, and the dedication of your commanders and chief executives. Throughout our tour we were met by generous friendship and hospitality, and provided with excellent transport and service by the US Air Force.

As you are aware, this Commission is having the difficult task of giving recommendations for Norway's security policies and its long range defense programme through the 1980's. The security problems in Northern Europe, and the part which the United States play in maintaining stability and security in that area, are of vital interest to my country. The visit proved most beneficial to the Commission, and we are much assured of the firm commitment of the United States in assisting in solving our mutual security problems.

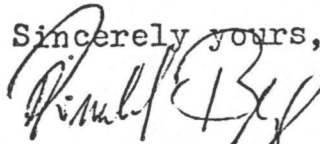
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Again, Mr Secretary, thank you so very much for your contribution to making our visit to your country such a beneficial and also a memorable one. Please also extend the Commission's most sincere and heartfelt thanks to the Service Secretaries and to your staff who contributed so well to the success of our tour.

Sincerely yours,



Ronald Bye  
Chairman  
Norwegian Defense  
Review Commission

