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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

28 JUN 1976

Ambassador Robert W. Komer
The Rand Corporation
2100 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Dear Bob:

The report you sent me on your latest NATO visit was interesting and informative. I had planned to discuss at the June DPC Ministerial a number of the issues which you had highlighted, and your report proved to be an excellent checklist. Your timely comments were useful in the preparation of the remarks which I made at the Ministerial.

I expressed to Defense Ministers my regret that progress had not been more impressive during the past year in flexibility, standardization and rationalization of NATO defenses. While acknowledging the real financial and political problems which exist, I urged my colleagues to accept the goal to make decisions by next December which would allow tactical communications systems to be interoperable. This is an area which you emphasized in your report.

I understand that Gene McAuliffe has already expressed our appreciation to you for sending us the report. However, I wanted to add my personal thanks.

Sincerely,



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Chief, Declass Br
Dir. & Rec. Div, WHS



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