

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

8 JUN 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR Secretary of the Army
Secretary of the Navy

SUBJECT: White House Helicopter Support

President Ford has determined that the present two-unit helicopter operation providing support to the White House should be consolidated into one organization under the Marine Corps. In the attached letter, the President directs the disestablishment of the Army Executive Flight Detachment,

It is requested that the Commandant of the Marine Corps develop an implementation plan to provide for the merged operation and maintenance of VH3 and VH1 helicopters now involved in support to the Office of the President and consolidation of all support for White House personnel. The high-cost special-purpose helicopters which become excess as a result of the consolidation effort should be identified with appropriate proposals for the disposition of this equipment to insure maximum benefit from this consolidation. In order to insure the continuity of helicopter support during this period, the Marine Corps implementation plan should be coordinated with the Military Assistant to the President, the Army and the Secret Service. This implementation plan should be submitted to this Office for review as soon as possible.

A collateral Army plan for the disestablishment of the Executive Flight Detachment and the application of its resources is requested by 21 June.

In order to achieve the recognition desired in the last paragraph of the President's letter, -it is requested that the Secretary of the Army take appropriate action for individual and unit awards to the personnel of the Army Executive Flight Detachment.

D. H. R. [Signature]

Enclosure
as stated

452 with 1211 May 10)

8 June 76



WH 10692

39



ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

4 JUN 1976

INSTALLATIONS AND LOGISTICS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: White House Helicopter Support - ACTION MEMORANDUM

In the President's letter dated May 27, he directed the consolidation of all helicopter support for the White House into one organization under the Marine Corps and the disestablishment of the Army Executive Flight Detachment.

In order to insure the orderly execution of this consolidation by 1 July 1976, the attached memorandum requires the Commandant of the Marine Corps to submit an implementation plan.

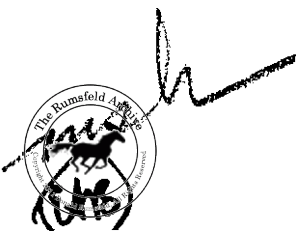
It is recommended that the attached proposed reply at TAB A be signed.

JOHN J. BENNETT
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Installations and Logistics)

Enclosure
as stated

CONCUR:
SATSD Alan Woods (Alan Woods)

PREPARED BY PAUL J. HYMAN, OX 77191



Handwritten initials

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

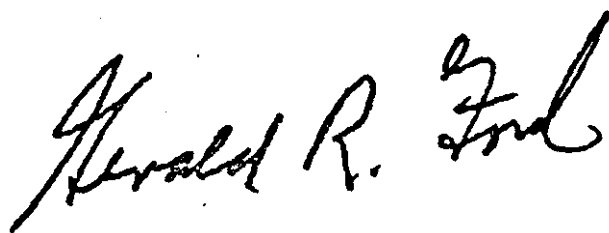
May 27, 1976

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In accordance with the study conducted by the Department of Defense, I have determined that the present two-unit helicopter operation provided in support to the Office of the President is excessively costly in terms of personnel and equipment. I have decided, therefore, that this mission should be consolidated in one organization under the Marine Corps and the Army Executive Flight Detachment disestablished. Implementation of this action will be as you deem appropriate but should be accomplished not later than July 1, 1976.

The Army Executive Flight Detachment has fulfilled a vitally **important** role with total dedication during the past years and I would recommend that their outstanding service be recognized by means of suitable individual and unit awards as appropriate.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
Washington, D.C. 20301

WH 10692



63159U