

AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE WASHINGTON, D. C., 20301

MEMORANDUM FOR Dr. Cowan, Assistant Secretary of Defense (H&E)

SUBJECT: SecDef Position - OMB Health Care Study

I have reviewed your proposed release to the members of Congress and the press. It is apparent that there will be considerable Congressional interest. In order to keep the Congress fully informed of our plans I recommend we use the following approach in lieu of the approach established in your memo.

- a. A drop to the entire Congress explaining the study recommendations and our method of consideration/implementation. This should involve a one page fact sheet to be forwarded over my signature prior to public release.
- b. Provision of the entire report to the Appropriations and Authorizations Committees of the Congress and to the Senate Health Subcommittee. Since the report deals with significant management improvements and possible budgetary reductions, copies should also be provided to the Budget and Government Operations Committees of the Congress. If there is no executive summary to the report, then the letters of transmittal should include a summary of findings.
- c. The response to query from the Congress be incorporated into the fact sheet recommended above and that the thrust be changed to reflect that the Secretary's decision on final implementation of the proposals will occur after the pilot programs are completed and that the Congress will be kept fully informed of all developments prior to public release.

John M. Maury

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Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs

