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NSC/RMO PROFILE

RECORD ID: 0004575
RECEIVED: 13 JUL 00 11

TO: BERGER

FROM: MALONEY, S

DOC DATE: 12 JUL 00
SOURCE REF:

KEYWORDS: PUBLIC STATEMENTS
KOSOVO
PEACEKEEPING

DEFENSE POLICY
COLOMBIA
INTL DEBT

PERSONS:

SUBJECT: SIGNING STATEMENT RE MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATIONS ACT &
SUPPLEMENTALS

ACTION: NO REPLY NECESSARY

DUE DATE: 13 JUL 00 STATUS: C

STAFF OFFICER: MALINOWSKI

LOGREF:

FILES: PA

NSCP:

CODES:

D O C U M E N T D I S T R I B U T I O N

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

COMMENTS: PROVIDE COMMENTS TO STAFF SECRETARY ASAP

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DOC 1 OF 1

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ACTION DATA SUMMARY REPORT

RECORD ID: 0004575

DOC ACTION OFFICER

001 MALINOWSKI
001

CAO ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED

Z 00071311 APPROPRIATE ACTION
X 00071315 NO REPLY NECESSARY

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Classification

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
RECORDS MANAGEMENT STAFFING DOCUMENT

Document Description:

TO: Berger DOCUMENT DATE: 7/12/00
FROM: Maloney, S
SUBJECT: Signing Statement re Military
construction Appropriations Act
and Supplementals

Document Distribution:

ACTION

Malinowski

CONCURRENCE

Beardsworth
Hammer
Patten
Pittman
Samans
Baker

INFO

Binnerdijk
ExecSec
Hill, C
Lackey
Rudman
Schwartz
Valenzuela

N A N

ACTION REQUIRED:

Appropriate Action

DUE DATE:

ASAP - 7/13 9:30 AM

COMMENTS:

Comments to Staff Secretary

00 JUL 13 11:57

DBG

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Classification

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 7.12.00ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 7.13.00 930 A.M.Subject: SIGNING STATEMENT - MILCON/SUPP

	ACTION	FYI		FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☒	☐	LOC	☒
PODESTA	☒	☐	MA	☐
ECHAVESTE	☒	☐	MO	☐
RICCHETTI	☒	☐	NASH	☐
LEW	☐	☐	NOLAN	☐
BAILY	☐	☐	REED	☐
BERGER	☒	☐	SPERLING	☐
BLUMENTHAL	☐	☐	STREETT	☐
BRAIN	☒	☐	TRAMONTANO	☐
BURSON	☐	☐	UCELLI	☐
CAHILL	☐	☐	VERVEER	☐
EDMONDS	☐	☐	<u>CLERKS</u>	☐
FRAMPTON	☒	☐		☐
IBARRA	☒	☐		☐
JOHNSON, B.	☐	☐		☐
JOHNSON, J.	☒	☐		☐
LANE	☐	☐		☐

REMARKS:

COMMENTS TO STAFF SECRETARY

RESPONSE:

PHOTOCOPY PRESERVATION



ROMAN

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 7.12.00ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 7.13.00 930 A.M.Subject: SIGNING STATEMENT - MILCON / SUPP

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☒	☐	LOCKHART	☐	☒
PODESTA	☒	☐	MARSHALL	☒	☐
ECHAVESTE	☒	☐	MOORE	☐	☐
RICCHETTI	☒	☐	NASH	☐	☐
LEW	☐	☐	NOLAN	☒	☐
BAILY	☐	☐	REED	☒	☐
BERGER 	☒	☐	SPERLING	☒	☐
BLUMENTHAL	☐	☐	STREETT	☐	☐
BRAIN	☒	☐	TRAMONTANO	☒	☐
BURSON	☐	☐	UCELLI	☒	☐
CAHILL	☐	☐	VERVEER	☐	☐
EDMONDS	☐	☐	<u>CLERKS</u>	☒	☐
FRAMPTON	☒	☐		☐	☐
IBARRA	☒	☐		☐	☐
JOHNSON, B.	☐	☐		☐	☐
JOHNSON, J.	☒	☐		☐	☐
LANE	☐	☐		☐	☐

REMARKS:

COMMENTS TO STAFF SECRETARY

RESPONSE:

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

Today I have signed into law H.R. 4425, the "Military Construction Appropriations Act, FY 2001, Emergency Supplemental Act, FY 2000, and Cerro Grande Fire Supplemental," which provides funding for military construction and family housing programs of the Department of Defense (DoD), and urgently needed supplemental resources.

I am gratified that my Administration and the Congress were able to reach agreement on the FY 2000 supplemental legislation included in H.R. 4425. This important supplemental appropriation provides urgently needed resources to keep the peace and build stability in Kosovo, to bolster democracy and reform elsewhere in Southeast Europe, to support the Colombian government's fight against drug traffickers, to provide needed home energy assistance for low-income families, to provide further assistance to the victims of Hurricane Floyd and other natural disasters, including the crisis in Mozambique, and for other purposes.

I commend the Congress for providing critical resources needed to continue our support for Plan Colombia, President Pastrana's strategy to address Colombia's national security, socioeconomic, and drug-related problems. The \$1.3 billion provided underscores our commitment to support the fight against drug traffickers and benefits the United States by bringing greater peace and prosperity to an important American ally.

Nonetheless, I am concerned that certain provisions of the bill will limit the effectiveness of our assistance. Key initiatives, such as ground-based radar, secure field communications and force protection are funded below my request. Furthermore, the Congress substituted its own judgement for that of the U.S. and Colombian military, and provides funding for only 16 of the 30 Blackhawk helicopters requested for the Colombian Army, and instead provides funding for 30 Huey II helicopters. The substitution of Huey IIs for Blackhawks creates logistical and pilot training problems for an already stretched infrastructure in Colombia, and fields a significantly less capable helicopter for the counterdrug mission.

I am pleased that the bill fully funds our request for military operations in Kosovo. We will work to ensure that the additional resources for readiness, military personnel, natural disaster recovery, defense healthcare, fuel, equipment upgrades, and intelligence support high priority programs within the Department of Defense.

I am disappointed that the bill does not include funding I requested for U.N. peacekeeping operations in the region, requested security and operational needs for embassies in Kosovo, or assistance for economic and democratic reforms in the region. The U.N. mission in Kosovo is performing an extraordinarily difficult but essential task of overseeing civilian administration until the people of Kosovo are able to assume that responsibility themselves. Secure facilities are needed in Kosovo to ensure the security of our employees serving U.S. interests and working to achieve lasting peace in the region. The requested funds support essential civilian infrastructure that would facilitate a prudent exit strategy for Kosovo and achievement of long-term stability in the Balkans.

I am also disappointed that the bill does not include requested funding for the multilateral Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) debt reduction initiative. The failure of Congress to provide this funding will result in significant delays in the implementation of debt reduction for qualifying countries, especially those in Latin America, that have implemented far reaching economic reforms. Similarly, while I am pleased that the Congress provided some funding for reconstruction assistance to Mozambique and the other Southern African countries devastated by recent flooding, these countries require additional assistance to recover from devastating natural disasters and continue their progress in implementing economic and democratic reforms.

I am disappointed that requested funding was not provided for a number of other important programs including:

- Projects designated to strengthen our critical infrastructure.
- The Ricky Ray Hemophilia Relief Trust Fund was not included in this bill. This request was part of my plan, announced in the Mid-Session Review Budget, to fully fund the \$750 million Trust Fund by FY 2001. I will work with the Congress to find other ways to achieve this goal. The longer the delay in funding the Trust Fund, the fewer hemophiliacs with HIV will be alive to benefit from this program.
- Summer jobs and other education and training opportunities to disadvantaged youth. The request would have ensured that none of our Nation's young adults get left behind as States and local areas transition to the requirements of the Workforce Investment Act.

I am pleased that the bill provides \$40 million included in our agreement with the Government of Puerto Rico related to the Navy training facility on the island of Vieques. This will be used for projects that will meet the health, environmental, and economic concerns of the residents as well as the referendum to determine the range's future.

I am especially pleased that this legislation includes over \$300 million in relief funds for Hurricane Floyd and other natural disasters. It also includes \$600 million I requested for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. This funding will provide needed assistance for low-income families.

The bill provides \$661 million to address the consequences of the fires in Los Alamos, New Mexico as well as \$350 million for firefighting activities.

While the Congress dropped most of the objectionable riders from the bill, regrettably, the Congress has included several objectionable language provisions:

- Most objectionable is an anti-environmental rider that was not in either the House or Senate version of the bill, which could significantly slow efforts to clean up the 20,000 bodies of water that the States have identified as too polluted for fishing or swimming. Before this problematic prohibition by the Congressional leadership became effective, the Environmental Protection Agency published its final clean water rule. In the final rule, EPA responded to many of the comments it received, including from the States and Members of Congress. The rule grants to the States flexibility in deciding how reductions in water pollution can best be achieved, contains deadlines for development of State clean-water plans and additional time for achieving the pollution reductions chosen by the States, and drops provisions that could have singled-out industries like forestry, aquaculture, and animal feeding operations for new permits. The rule's effective date coincides with the end of the Congressional prohibition – October 1, 2001. This delayed effective date will allow States to proceed with the development of their plans during FY 2001 under existing clean water rules.
- The bill also includes a rider that would delay until the end of the fiscal year environmental analysis of Central Arizona Project (CAP) water allocations that must be done before major Indian water rights settlements and litigation over the CAP repayment obligation can be finally resolved, thus jeopardizing both important settlements.
- The bill includes riders to Colombia assistance limiting the use of certain funds to support the initiative, placing caps on U.S. personnel, and requiring detailed certifications concerning Colombian compliance with specific human rights provisions and Colombian drug eradication strategy. These riders may make it more difficult to provide effective assistance as drug traffickers change their tactics.
- There is also a provision that would create a burdensome reporting requirement for the National Missile Defense Organization.

I am pleased that Congress has decided not to include statutory language that would have interfered with the Department of the Army's management of the Army Corps of Engineers. The proposed legislative rider would have prevented the Secretary of the Army from clarifying the proper relationship between senior Corps of Engineers officials and the appointed civilian officials of the Army who have the responsibility to oversee Corps of Engineers activities. It is important and appropriate that Congress has retained for these civilian officials, who are confirmed by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, the means to ensure the accountability and a clear chain of command necessary for effective organization performance. Weakening this relationship statutorily would call into question serious constitutional issues that extend to civilian-military relationships far beyond the scope of the immediate Corps of Engineers issues. I am concerned, however, about language included in the Conference Statement of the Managers setting out certain conditions related to these management issues. As this language does not prevent the

Army from proceeding with management improvements, to the extent the Congress has requested additional consultation this request will be fully honored. Congress has also requested that the Army not move forward with these clarifying improvements until ongoing investigations regarding the Army Corps of Engineers are made available and considered. We take this language to refer to the Army Inspector General's investigation of matters related to Upper Mississippi study, which is the only investigation the Army has underway regarding the Corps of Engineers. I am directing the Secretary of the Army to review what implications the Inspector General's investigation might have for the proposed reforms, to take them into account if relevant, and to consult with Congress about these investigations as he proceeds with his management improvements.

The Act funds the vast majority of my request for military construction projects, the military housing program, and other quality-of-life projects for our military personnel and their families. The requested projects are critical to supporting military readiness and the quality of life of our soldiers and their families. However, I have several concerns with the bill:

- Continuing a trend of the past few years, the Congress has not provided the requested level of construction funding for the Chemical Weapons Demilitarization, an important national program. This year's reduction of \$20 million to my requested funding threatens the ability of the United States to meet the 2007 Chemical Weapons Convention deadline for the destruction of the U.S. stockpile of chemical weapons. The sooner these weapons are destroyed, the safer we will all be.
- The Congress has chosen to add funds for projects that DoD has not identified as priorities. In particular, \$475 million is for 83 projects that are not in DoD's Future Years Defense Program.
- The Congress has again included a provision (section 124) that would prevent the use of funds provided by this Act for Partnership for Peace Programs in the New Independent States of the former Soviet Union. Although this provision would have no practical effect in the short term, I believe it could adversely affect U.S. foreign policy initiatives, as well as future NATO-led operations if it were to become a permanent fixture in future Military Construction Appropriation Acts.

Today I am designating as emergency requirements the funds – with two exceptions – in the Act that the Congress has so designated. The exceptions are for the Department of Health and Human Services Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and the Department of the Interior Wildland Fire Management program. The emergency designations are necessary so that urgently needed funds are available for critical needs.