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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

April 24, 1981

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Weekly Report on Defense Activities

Rapid Deployment Joint Task Force: I sent you a separate memo regarding our decision to improve the command arrangements for the Rapid Deployment Joint Task Force. As you know we recommended the creation of a new Unified Command whose area of responsibilities encompasses the Middle East area. The Command would have its own geographic responsibility, Service components, forces and the necessary support elements. Although it will be a few years before this command is fully established and operating, I plan to take some near-term steps which will better enable us to fight in that area of the world should that become necessary. As an example, I assigned the XVIII Airborne Corps to the RDJTF now, with additional forces to be assigned in the near future. Until the new unified command is fully established, we will retain the RDJTF in Readiness Command, but with new leadership of both units. (S)

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Date: JUL 24 2018

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