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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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In Reply Refer to:

MAY 6 1959

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MEMORANDUM FOR: ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (MP&R)

SUBJECT: Requirement for Army Personnel to Support JTF-7
Responsibilities

1. Reference is made to ASD (MP&R) Memorandum on the above subject dated 1 April 1959.

2. The programmed reduction in the Army Element strength of JTF-7 as published in the Troop Program of the Army, FY 59, as of 5 February 1958 and in subsequent revisions since that date, reflects an overall reduction from a Table of Distribution authorized strength of 642 to an authorized strength of 306 - a total reduction of 336 personnel. It was the contention of the Army that this reduction should be compensated for by the Air Force and Navy, on the basis of 168 personnel each - total 336.

3. Justification for the above action is the Army position that the administrative and logistical support for the communications and Air Base operations on Eniwetok Island should be furnished equally by the three Services. This support does not contribute to the mission of any service; it can be done by any service and should, therefore, be reapportioned on an equal basis to the three Services.

4. The programmed reduction of the Army Element of JTF-7 had its origin in 1956 when the Army reported to the JCS that it was unduly burdened with an administrative, logistic and security role for JTF-7 at the Pacific Proving Ground. On 20 March 1956 the JCS stated that they considered the problem of reviewing the administrative, logistic and security support each service should provide the JTF-7 to be a matter within the responsibilities of Commanders and Services concerned. Based on the foregoing decision the Army attempted to negotiate a reduction with the Executive Agents as follows:

a. On 20 April 1956 Army recommended a reduction in JTF-7 Army strength to CNO (Executive Agent). The matter was referred by the CNO to the Commander JTF-7 who replied that no reductions were possible until FY 59.

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b. On 17 June 1957 Army notified the Air Force (Executive Agent) that, with respect to the interim period subsequent to Operation HARDTACK, the Army considers that at Eniwetok:

(1) The communications responsibilities are properly chargeable to the Army.

(2) The operation of the Air Base is properly chargeable to the Air Force.

(3) The administrative and logistical support for the communications and Air Base functions should be furnished equally by the three Services.

In addition the Air Force was notified that the Army was programming a reduction in its manpower authorization to JTF-7 upon completion of Operation HARDTACK in consonance with the above considerations.

c. On 7 October 1957 the Army requested prompt action by the the Air Force to reapportion the administrative and logistical support to JTF-7 since it was programming a reduction in the Army Element of that Agency following Operation HARDTACK.

d. On 5 December 1958 the Air Force recommended that the reduction be withheld pending JCS action regarding possible transfer of interim JTF-7 functions to AFSWP. In response to the Air Force reclama the Army stated that the programmed support for JTF-7 remained firm and that deferment of the reduction was not feasible due to DoD imposed reductions in the strength of the Army.

e. On 4 March 1959, the Deputy Commander, JTF-7 was advised:

(1) To revise the TD of the Army Element of JTF-7 within the 306 ceiling.

(2) To reduce actual strength to authorized strength. An additional three months was offered to effect this reduction.

(3) That the Army would accept requisitions for critical MOS's even if approval would constitute an overstrength.

5. By Memorandum to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Atomic Energy) dated 16 March 1959, the Commander, JTF-7, indicated that he could reduce US Army personnel strength on Eniwetok, with no substantial

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effects on mission accomplishment, from 560 to 393 personnel and still fulfill DoD obligations. The proposed 393 strength for Eniwetok is 169 more than the Army programmed strength for Eniwetok and still does not include any participation by the Navy or Air Force. The Commander JTF-7 stated that the Navy and Air Force have repeatedly refused to assume the administrative and logistical support functions on Eniwetok. Their refusal is based on the contention that their overall support functions during a complete test cycle, including interim, build-up and test phases exceed that of the Army. They support their contention by use of man-year computations which include all ship crew personnel and aircraft and ground personnel, all of which can be construed as contributing to the overall mission of the Navy and Air Force. It should be pointed out that these ship and aircraft crews perform functions that are normally part of their training requirements, whereas the Army support requires a special organization to provide housekeeping support which is not contributing to any normal Army training missions. Thus the man-year comparison is not related to the criteria of equal Service contribution to housekeeping support responsibilities.

6. The Army's programmed reduction for the US Army Element of JTF-7 for FY 59 was based upon equal participation by the three Services in the administrative and logistical support requirements of Task Group 7.2 on Eniwetok, with the consequent reduction in Army requirements on Eniwetok from 560 to 224 personnel. In effecting the reduction, Army considered the communications responsibility on Eniwetok as properly chargeable to the Army. The communications requirement on Eniwetok amounts to 57 personnel. Of the remaining 503 requirement which consists of administrative and logistical support personnel, it is the Army concept that this type of housekeeping support should be furnished on an equal basis by the three Services. This requirement amounts to approximately 168 personnel each Service. The commander of JTF-7 has stated that he can reduce the total personnel requirement for Task Group 7.2 on Eniwetok from 560 to 393 for a net reduction of 167 personnel. Assuming the communication personnel requirement to be constant (57) and by applying the same concept of equal Service contribution to administrative and logistical support on Eniwetok to the remaining requirement for 336 personnel, the contribution by each Service to the administrative and logistical support on Eniwetok would amount to approximately 112 personnel. A comparative summary of the above support requirements on Eniwetok follows:

	<u>560 Rqmt</u>	<u>393 Rqmt</u>	<u>Reduction</u>
ARMY	224	169	-55
NAVY	168	112	-56
AIR FORCE	168	112	-56
TOTAL	560	393	-167

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Since the Army share of the above reduction would amount to 55 personnel, this would enable the Army to further reduce its programmed strength for Task Group 7.2 on Eniwetok from 224 to 169 and its total programmed strength for the US Army Element of JTF-7 from 306 to 251.

7. The Army has not and is not proposing a change in the organization of JTF-7. The Army proposes that the contribution of the three Services to Task Group 7.2 for the administrative and logistical element of Task Group 7.2 will be equal.

8. Pending final resolution of this matter, the Army will not reduce the Army Element strength on Eniwetok Island below 393 and, as per the 4 March 1959 agreement with JTF-7, will continue to provide key Army specialists considered essential by the Commander JTF-7.

9. In view of the above, therefore, it is recommended that the administrative and logistic support of the communications and Air Base at Eniwetok be furnished on an equal basis by the three Services.

(Signed)

DEWEY SHORT
Assistant Secretary of the Army
(Manpower, Personnel and Reserve Forces)

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