

Message Text

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R 311934Z DEC 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP, UK, TU, GR, GW, SP, IC, IT

SUBJECT: MODE - RELATIONSHIP OF COAST GUARD UNITS TO
AMBASSADORIAL AUTHORITY

REF: LONDON 06891 AND SUBSEQUENT (NOTAL)

1. DEPARTMENT AND COAST GUARD HEADQUARTERS AGREE THAT
COAST GUARD COMMAND AT AMEMBASSY LONDON (COMCOGARD ACTEUR)
SHOULD FALL WITHIN AMBASSADOR'S AUTHORITY AND RESPON-
SIBILITY AS PROVIDED FOR IN PL 93-475. APPEARS, HOWEVER,
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THAT STATUTES AND DOCUMENTATION THEREUNDER ON THIS SUBJECT

WHEN FORMULATED DID NOT TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION SPECIFICS OF COAST GUARD ACTIVITIES AND COMMANDS. BY STATUTE, U.S. COAST GUARD DESIGNATED MILITARY SERVICE AND IS SITUATED IN TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT. ALTHOUGH COMCOGARD ACTEUR IS LITERALLY "AREA COMMAND" UNDER COMDT COGARD, IT DOES NOT MEET CRITERIA FOR AREA COMMAND ("UNIFIED COMBATANT" OR "SPECIFIED COMBATANT") AS SET FORTH FOR DOD FORCES IN 10 USC 124. PL 93-475 CLEARLY APPLIES TO DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE MILITARY AREA COMMANDERS TO EXCLUSION OF ALL OTHER DEFENSE COMMANDS. PRINCIPAL CHARACTER OF ACTIVITY

ENGAGED IN BY COMCOGARD ACTEUR, HOWEVER, WOULD SEEM TO COME UNDER THE SCOPE OF ACTIVITY TO WHICH IT IS INTENDED THAT AMBASSADOR'S AUTHORITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES SHOULD EXTEND.

2. RECORDS OF OPRED/MODE STAFF INDICATE THAT COMCOGARD ACTEUR ALONG WITH ITS UNITS LOCATED IN OTHER COUNTRIES WERE NOT COUNTED WITHIN EITHER BALPA OR OPRED CEILINGS OF TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT. THIS PROBABLY DUE TO EVOLUTION OF COAST GUARD COMMAND FUNCTIONS OVER PAST 35 YEARS AT LONDON WHICH HAS TOUCHED UPON CERTAIN MILITARY ASPECTS, AS WELL AS CIVIL. BRINGING COMCOGARD ACTEUR FORMALLY UNDER AMBASSADORS WILL REQUIRE ADJUSTMENT IN EARLIER CEILING CRITERIA TO BE CONSISTENT WITH SECTION 12, PL 93-475, PARTICULARLY NOW THAT OPRED HAS GIVEN WAY TO MODE CONTROL SYSTEM. THIS COULD RAISE PRACTICAL PROBLEMS ABOUT THE EXERCISE OF COMMAND BETWEEN COMCOGARD ACTEUR AND ITS SUBORDINATE UNITS WHICH ARE LOCATED IN OTHER

COUNTRIES, LITERALLY SPEAKING, EACH SUBORDINATE UNIT SHOULD LOOK TO THE U.S. AMBASSADOR IN COUNTRIES OF ITS OWN LOCATION FOR GUIDANCE. BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THIS POSSIBLE CONFLICT CAN BE AVOIDED, AS IT HAS BEEN IN THE PAST, BY DIRECT LIAISON BETWEEN COMCOGARD ACTEUR AND THOSE EMBASSIES IN COUNTRIES WHERE COAST GUARD SUBORDINATE UNITS ARE LOCATED.

3. COMDT COGARD AGREES THAT COMCOGARD ACTEUR SHOULD KEEP AMBASSADOR FULLY AND CURRENTLY INFORMED OF ITS ACTIVITIES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND OPERATIONS, AS HAS BEEN INFORMAL PRACTICE IN PAST. UNDERSTAND THAT ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING COMPLETED FOR COMCOGARD ACTEUR TO PARTICIPATE IN NEW SCHEME FOR SHARING ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT (SAS). THUS, WITH FORMALIZING OF AMBASSADOR'S AUTHORITY AND RESPONSIBILITY, WE WOULD EXPECT COMCOGARD ACTEUR OPERATIONS AND PRACTICES TO CONTINUE AS BEFORE, BUT WITH PRIMARY SUPPORT COMING FROM EMBASSY ADMINISTRATION UNDER SAS AGREEMENT.

4. WASHINGTON RECORDS INDICATE THAT THE FOLLOWING
NUMBERS OF COAST GUARD MILITARY POSITIONS ARE AFFECTED
BY THIS ADJUSTMENT IN CEILING LEVEL:

UK (LONDON)	33
UK (SHETLAND ISLAND)	16
ICELAND (KEFLAVIK)	11
GERMANY (SYLT)	18
ITALY (SARDINIA)	10
ITALY (SIMERI CRICHI)	27
ITALY (LAMPEDUSA)	26
SPAIN (ESTACA DE VARES)	13
SPAIN (ESTARTET)	23
TURKEY (KARGABARUN)	22
GREECE (RHODES)	8
TOTAL	207

ALL OF THE ABOVE UNITS, EXCEPT THE LONDON OFFICE, OPERATE
LORAN STATIONS. ROBINSON

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