

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 10, 1993

file
MEMORANDUM FOR RUDY DELEON, CHIEF OF STAFF
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

KEVIN THURME, CHIEF OF STAFF
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

GABBY HARTNETT, CHIEF OF STAFF
DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

FROM: Carol H. Rasco, Assistant to the President for
Domestic Policy

SUBJECT: Section 707 of P.L. 102-585

Throughout recent weeks there has been a great deal of discussion back and forth between your departments and the White House regarding Section 707 of P.L. 102-585. This law calls for the designation of a "head of an appropriate department or agency of the Federal Government to coordinate all research activities undertaken or funded by the Executive Branch of the Federal Government on the health consequences of military service in the Persian Gulf theater of operations during the Persian Gulf War."

I am requesting that the three of you (or your designees as you may choose) meet and recommend to me a consensus designation for the "head" as well as plan of action which allows for the appropriate involvement of all three departments.

I would appreciate a reply jointly signed by the close of business Wednesday, August 18.

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

cc: Christine Varney

Called CHR to say VA has been designated - report is forthcoming w/o 8/23 due to Mr. Hartnett's travel plans.



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Washington DC 20420

AUGUST 20, 1993

Put w/ all the
Persian Gulf
War Medical
Research stuff

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs

SUBJECT: Public Law 102-585, Section 707

- I. ACTION-FORCING EVENT: Public Law 102-585, Section 707
- II. BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS: The law requires that the President designate "the head of an appropriate department or agency of the Federal Government to coordinate all research activities undertaken or funded by the Executive Branch of the Federal Government on the health consequences of military service in the Persian Gulf theater of operations during the Persian Gulf War."

The Departments of Defense, Health and Human Services, and Veterans Affairs have agreed that the Secretary of Veterans Affairs should serve as the coordinator.

- III. RECOMMENDATION: Designation of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs as the coordinator.

IV. DECISION:

Approve Approve as amended Reject No action

William Clinton

August 31, 1993