

SUMMARY OF 13 DOCUMENTS SUPPORTING THE NEED FOR FURLOUGH

Budget Control Act of 2011

- A lengthy bill signed into law that imposed spending ceilings
- Specified budget sequestration unless a Congressional joint committee was able to pass a deficit reduction bill by 12 Jan 2012 (such a bill did not pass)

2012 American Taxpayer Relief Act (also known as Public Law 112-240)

- A 60 page law pertaining largely to specific tax provisions
- Amended the Budget Control Act to have budget cuts to be implemented 1 March instead of January

20 Dec 2012 Memo – Implications of Ongoing Fiscal Cliff Negotiations

- Discusses across the board budget reductions known as “sequestration”
- At that time the Administration was focused on avoiding the budget cuts
- States that if cuts occur furloughs may have to be considered

10 Jan 2013 Memo – Handling Budgetary Uncertainty in Fiscal Year 2013

- States that either “continuing resolution” (held funding at the 2012 levels) and sequestration as difficulties that would present serious budget challenges
- Authorized all components to examine mitigation strategies and submit plans for coping with budget constraints

12 Feb 2013 – CSA Odierno’s Testimony before Senate Armed Forces Committee

- Stresses fiscal outlook of DoD is dire
- Sequestration and continuing resolution will dramatically affect readiness, modernization programs, thereby putting national security at risk
- Army already had budget shortfall of \$170 billion
- Face \$5 billion shortfall in OMA overseas contingency operations
- Sequestration will impose on Army an additional \$12 billion cut
- Already planning cost savings measures: terminating temp/term employees & contractors, cancel quarter 3&4 depot maintenance, Army hiring freeze, curtailing training, maneuvers, reducing base sustainment funds, and furlough of civilians

20 Feb 2013 DoD Letter from Congress to President

- States DoD may have to furlough across entire civilian workforce to meet sequestration reductions
- Argues that workload requirements will be unreasonable under furlough and sequestration
- States goal is to furlough in consistent and equitable manner
- Sees no viable alternative to furlough if sequestration occurs

20 Feb 2013 SECDEF Letter to Civilians

- States that sequestration effects will be magnified because of the continuing resolution which holds expenditures to 2012 levels
- States if sequestration occurs, DoD will have no choice but to furlough vast majority of civilians
- DoD will work to ensure furloughs are executed in consistent and appropriate manner
- DoD will continue to discuss these issues with employee unions and will continue to keep employees informed

21 Feb OSD Memo on Total Force Management and Budget Uncertainty

- Emphasizes that especially in times of budget uncertainty,
 - proper procedures must be followed in contracting of work
 - Restates that contracting out inherently governmental functions is prohibited
 - Instructs that military personnel should not be used to perform functions outside their military essential functions

1 Mar 2013 DEP SECDEF Letter to California Governor Brown

- References to \$41 billion budget cut from DoD in FY 2013 plus another possible \$5 billion cut - 9% cut of the overall DoD budget
- States that continuing resolution budget further adds to budget woes
- Refers to effect in California of millions of dollars in cuts for various programs and operations
- Refers to possible furloughs of 64,000 employees in California

1 Mar 2013 Order from the White House

- Ordered implementation of sequestration effective 1 Mar 2013 in accordance with the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act

20 Mar 2013 Memo from the Office of ASA M&RA

- States that administrative furloughs likely would be required for up to 22 days (176 hrs)
- Listed some employee categories exempt from furlough
- Explained designation and roles of furlough deciding officials
- Limited utilization of overtime/comp time

4 Apr Memo from the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB)

- Refers to Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act as one of the laws that required canceling \$85 billion in budget resources in FY 2013 to federal agencies
- States that sequestration provides agencies with little discretion in deciding where and how to reduce spending

15 Apr 2013 Memo from OSD on Actions for Handling Budget Uncertainty

- Restricts overtime/comp time
- Restricts travel, TDY, training
- Restricts expenditure on contracts to those validated as necessary
- Restricts appointments of temporary and term employees