



THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

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ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY,
AND LOGISTICS

JUL 29 2016

The Honorable Charles Dent
Chairman, Subcommittee on Military Construction,
Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Page 19 of House Report 114-497, to accompany the Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, 2017, requests the Department of Defense (DoD) to examine if adjustments in Defense Access Roads (DAR) eligibility thresholds are needed for installations that provide protective functions for the President and diplomats; and report on whether the DAR program adequately addresses the needs of installations that handle protective functions. This letter is provided in response to the Committee's request.

The Department's examination indicates that the existing DAR program, including its eligibility criteria, adequately addresses the needs of installations that handle protective functions and no adjustment to the eligibility criteria is necessary. The Military Services have not reported any off-base road requirements to mitigate traffic congestion that would necessitate an increase to installation accessibility for diplomats or to provide protective functions for the President or diplomats. Additionally, the Department has not received any indication from the White House that there is a security concern due to traffic congestion at the access points to any DoD installation.

Protective functions for the President or diplomats requiring access to a DoD installation are best served through coordination of their travel itinerary prior to the visit. Based upon the itinerary, the installation security forces would regulate traffic flow on to the installation, provide security, and swiftly expedite installation access. Thank you for your continued support for Department of Defense facility requirements.

Sincerely,



Frank Kendall

cc:

The Honorable Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Ranking Member