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September 6, 2004, 10:00am

FOR: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: ^{1/12} Peter F. Verga, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
(Homeland Defense)

SUBJECT: Approved DoD Support to FEMA - Hurricane Frances

- **Defense Coordinating Officer and Defense Coordinating Element (DCO/DCE):** FEMA requested DCO/DCE in support of Hurricane Charlie response. DCO/DCE remained in-place at Disaster Field Office in Orlando, FL to support Hurricane Frances response. There are a total of 14 personnel supporting.
- **Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officers (EPLOs):** EPLOs deployed in support of Hurricane Charlie and remained in place to support Hurricane Frances. Regional and State EPLOs are in place at FEMA Region IV headquarters in Atlanta, GA and the State Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee, FL. EPLOs are augmenting the Joint Staff and the DoD Liaison to FEMA at FEMA headquarters in Washington, D.C. There are a total of 17 EPLOs at the above locations.
- **Airlift:** FEMA requested airlift support for one of its Urban Search and Rescue teams (75 personnel, dogs, and equipment) from NM to FL. The mission was canceled by FEMA while C-17 was enroute to NM to pick the team up. FEMA will reimburse DoD for the sortie.
- **Search and Rescue (SAR):** FEMA requested five Air Force SAR helicopters, crew, pararescue, and medics to be on alert to support potential SAR operations. Five HH-60 platforms and 25 personnel from Patrick AFB, FL are supporting from Dobbins AFB, GA. Platforms and personnel deployed from Patrick AFB, FL to Dobbins AFB, GA as part of the installation's hurricane evacuation plan. The SAR requirement was canceled by FEMA. There were no costs incurred by DoD.
- **Communications:** FEMA requested a long range satellite communications capability for the State of FL. A Joint Combat Support Element deployed to the State Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee, FL. 46 personnel man the system.
- **Medical:** FEMA requested labor/delivery and OBGYN nurses to augment staff at DeSoto County hospital, FL in support of Hurricane Charlie. The nurses remained in place and will support Hurricane Frances. There are 8 total nurses.

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Mobilization Centers: FEMA requested NAS Jacksonville, FL; Homestead AFB, FL; and Fort Gillem, GA to be utilized as logistical staging areas for FEMA's disaster response materials. Installations are providing support to include billeting of FEMA response personnel.

