

3 FEB 07 2005

SOCOM

TO: GEN Doug Brown

c c : Gen Dick Myers
Gordon England
Gen Mike Hagee

FROM: Donald Rumsfeld *DR*

SUBJECT: Marines Special Operations Command

Thank you for the briefing on the continuing efforts to involve the Marine Corps in Special Operations.

I think we need to push harder and faster in this area. I am interested in the question of whether the Marines should have a special operations command like the other Services. It seems to me that is an idea worth considering. It might create conditions to properly leverage the contributions the Marines could make in this vital warfighting area.

I would like you to come back within 30 days with an evaluation of such a command, what it might look like, how many Marines might be involved, where it might be located, and so forth.

The ideas you presented – such as using the Marines for training duties – are fine, but I think we could go further. Thinking through the idea of a MARCSOC may help us in that direction.

Thanks.

DHR:dh
020405-19

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Please respond by 3/10/05



7 Feb 05