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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 13, 1977

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JAMES T. LYNN

FROM:

JAMES E. CONNOR *JEF*

SUBJECT:

Authorization of Bed Levels for Veterans
Administration Replacement Hospitals at Martinsburg,
West Virginia; Portland, Oregon; Seattle, Washington
Little Rock, Arkansas; Baltimore, Maryland; and for
a new Hospital at Camden, New Jersey

The President reviewed your memorandum of January 10 on the above subject and approved your recommendation that you authorize the level of beds and sites requested by the VA for the six hospital complexes. It was further approved that VA be directed to make every effort to keep the cost of these projects within the current estimates.

Please follow up with appropriate action.

cc: Dick Cheney

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MR PRESIDENT:

Jim Cannon reviewed and concurs
in the attached memorandum from
Jim Lynn.

Jim Connor



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

JAN 10 1977

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

James J. Lynn

SUBJECT:

Authorization of Bed Levels for
Veterans Administration Replace-
ment Hospitals at Martinsburg,
West Virginia; Portland, Oregon;
Seattle, Washington; Little Rock,
Arkansas; Baltimore, Maryland;
and for a new Hospital at Camden,
New Jersey

This memorandum requests your authorization of bed levels and sites for the Veterans Administration (VA) hospital projects in Martinsburg, Portland, Seattle, Little Rock, Baltimore, and Camden, which you approved on May 11, 1976, and for which you secured design funding in your FY 1977 budget. Your authorization, required by 38 U.S.C. 5001, will enable the VA to proceed on the design of authorized projects with available 1977 funds. Consistent with your commitment, construction funds for Martinsburg and Portland will be proposed in the 1978 budget, for Seattle and Little Rock in the 1979 budget, and for Baltimore and Camden in the 1980 budget.

The VA has requested authorization of 1,040 beds at Martinsburg, West Virginia. This complex would provide a 370-bed hospital with 310 medical-surgical and 60 psychiatric beds and a 120-bed nursing home, all by new construction at the existing site. In addition, 200 of the existing 550 domiciliary beds would be replaced by new construction. In total, the new Martinsburg complex would have 185 fewer beds than the present complex.

For the proposed Portland, Oregon, complex, the VA has requested authorization of a total of 890 beds at the existing VA site on Marquam Hill. The Portland complex would contain a 770-bed hospital by new construction,

consisting of 680 medical-surgical and 90 psychiatric beds, and a newly constructed 120-bed nursing home. As soon as possible following activation of the new Portland complex, VA proposes to close the Vancouver VA Hospital. Thus, the Portland replacement complex would be 13 beds smaller than the current Portland/Vancouver combination.

For Seattle, Washington, the VA has proposed for authorization a newly constructed 455-bed hospital with 320 medical-surgical beds, 90 psychiatric beds, and a 45-bed spinal cord injury unit. In addition, VA has proposed to build 60 new nursing home beds in the hospital complex. The Seattle replacement complex, which would be located at the current VA site, would thus be increased from the current 346 beds to 515 total beds, an increase of 169 beds. To offset part of this increase, VA will draw down the Walla Walla, Washington, VA Hospital by 20 beds, 13 medical and 7 surgical.

The VA has requested authorization of 1,540 beds for the Little Rock, Arkansas, complex. A 460-bed hospital is proposed for new construction at the University of Arkansas Medical Center, replacing the current Little Rock Division. The hospital would contain 430 medical and surgical and 30 psychiatric beds. At the North Little Rock Division, the VA proposes to modernize facilities to yield 70 neurological, 280 intermediate, and 530 psychiatric beds in addition to retention of 200 existing nursing home beds. The new Little Rock complex would thus have 145 fewer beds than the current complex.

At Baltimore, Maryland, the VA proposes to develop a total of 1,600 beds. This proposal would build a new 400-bed hospital next to the University of Maryland in Baltimore, with 220 internal medicine, and 120 surgical and 60 psychiatric beds. It would retain 250 beds at the Loch Raven VA Hospital to yield 60 intermediate medicine, 80 rehabilitation medicine, and 30 psychiatric beds, as well as 80 nursing home beds. Finally, VA would retain 950 beds at Perry Point VA Hospital to yield 80 internal medicine, 470 intermediate medicine, 320 psychiatric, and 80 nursing home beds. The aging Fort Howard VA Hospital would be closed. The total VA complex thus would be decreased by 13 beds from the current complex.

The Camden, New Jersey, VA complex, the only one of the eight which will be new and not a replacement, is planned

to be 480 beds. It will consist of a 360-bed hospital with 300 medical, surgical and neurological and 60 acute psychiatric beds, and a 120-bed nursing home. After completing the Camden facilities, VA will close 40 intermediate medicine beds at the Coatesville, Pennsylvania, VA Hospital.

We recommend that you authorize the level of beds and sites requested by the VA for the six hospital complexes. Finally, we recommend that VA be directed to make every effort to keep the cost of these projects within the current estimates.

Approve

RRJ

Disapprove

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: January 11, 1977

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

up
1/12/77

✓ Jim Cannon

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Wednesday, January 12, 1977 Time: 10:00 A.M.

SUBJECT: James T. Lynn memo, 1/10/77 re
Authorization of Bed Levels for
Veterans Administration Replacement
Hospitals at Martinburg, West Virginia;
Portland, Oregon; Seattle, Washington;
Little Rock, Arkansas; Baltimore, Maryland;
and for a new Hospital at Camden, New Jersey

ACTION REQUESTED:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> For Necessary Action | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Your Recommendations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Agenda and Brief | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Reply |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Your Comments | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Remarks |

REMARKS:

Cannon - approve +

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Jim Connor
For the President

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

JAN 10 1977

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

James T. Lynn *JS/L*

SUBJECT:

Authorization of Bed Levels for
Veterans Administration Replace-
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West Virginia; Portland, Oregon;
Seattle, Washington; Little Rock,
Arkansas; Baltimore, Maryland;
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We recommend that you authorize the level of beds and sites requested by the VA for the six hospital complexes. Finally, we recommend that VA be directed to make every effort to keep the cost of these projects within the current estimates.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

Action

—
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1.10.77

TO:

Jim Connor

For Your Information: _____

For Appropriate Handling: ✓


Robert D. Linder

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: January 11, 1977

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

Jim Cannon

077 JAN 11 PM 9 56

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Wednesday, January 12, 1977 Time: 10:00 A.M.

SUBJECT: James T. Lynn memo, 1/10/77 re Authorization of Bed Levels for Veterans Administration Replacement Hospitals at Martinburg, West Virginia; Portland, Oregon; Seattle, Washington; Little Rock, Arkansas; Baltimore, Maryland; and for a new Hospital at Camden, New Jersey

ACTION REQUESTED:

- For Necessary Action
- For Your Recommendations
- Prepare Agenda and Brief
- Draft Reply
- For Your Comments
- Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

*1/12
Recommended Approval
MJ*

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Jim Connor
For the President