

JOHN F. KERRY
MASSACHUSETTS

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

May 18, 1992 CAMBRIDGE MA.

Mr. John E. Flynn
Office of the City Clerk
City Hall
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Dear Mr. Flynn:

Thank you for contacting me to express your support for cuts in the military budget.

During the past decade this country experienced the largest peacetime military build-up in history. Too often we spent billions for weapons systems we did not need, and have incurred a debt of over \$2 trillion in the process. To pay for this build-up, many families are paying higher taxes, and this nation is shackled with unprecedented debt. In addition, some very important social programs which provide real security for the people of our nation have been cut, causing significant damage that will take years to overcome and that will produce untold human misery in the meantime.

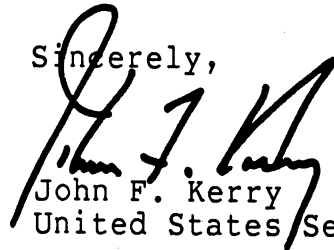
Profound changes in our greatest adversary, the former Soviet Union, have meant that we must now change the way we allocate our resources. In this 102nd Congress, I have consistently supported legislation that would reduce unnecessary military spending, such as cutting back on funds allocated for the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), the B-2 Bomber, and the MX missile.

Even as we see a new world order developing, and no longer are threatened by the Soviet Union or the independent republics which used to compose it, we must maintain a strong defense capable of deterring aggression against the United States or its interests around the world, and of defending our interests where necessary. But it is my judgment we can do this fully adequately while cutting our defense budget by more than the \$7 billion reduction proposed by President Bush for Fiscal Year 1993 and a \$48 billion reduction over five years. The House Armed Services Committee has recommended cutting \$15 billion from the defense budget this year and \$91 billion over the next five years. With your support, I will work to reduce our military spending more than the Administration has proposed, and I will continue to push for greater emphasis on meeting critical domestic needs such as education, environmental protection and cleanup, and balancing our budget.

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Again, thank you for taking the time to share your views with me. Please keep in touch.

Sincerely,



John F. Kerry
United States Senator

JFK/lagr

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CONSENT COMMUNICATION #4 S-453

Communication from John F. Kerry, Senator,
in acknowledgement for the resolution
adopted by the City Council regarding cuts
in military spending.

In City Council,

June 1, 1992

Placed on file