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DECEMBER 10, 1974

Office of the White House Press Secretary
(Vail, Colorado)

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

The President has signed S. 3191--which provides temporary authority for 3 years for the Secretary of the Army to involuntarily discharge commissioned, Regular Army officers below the rank of major when there is a reduction in force.

The bill embodies the major features of a Department of Defense legislative proposal. It permits the Secretary of the Army, whenever there is a reduction in force, to involuntarily discharge commissioned, Regular Army officers below the rank of major (i. e., second lieutenants, first lieutenants and captains) upon the recommendation of a board of officers which he would appoint for the purpose of recommending such discharges.

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