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THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

WASHINGTON

September 2, 1942

*Capt
McLain
To file*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

The Joint U. S. Chiefs of Staff, at their meeting on September 1, 1942, considered and approved a recommendation of the Chief of Staff, U. S. Army, to increase the U. S. Army by drafting an additional 650,000 men at once in order that the total strength may be 5,000,000 men by December 31, 1942.

This increase is considered essential in order to provide for new task forces, to bring present units to organization strength, to provide cadres for units to be organized in 1943, and to provide a cushion of replacements for estimated battle losses in 1942. Actually, U. S. forces authorized for 1942 have already been overdrawn, since it has been necessary to reduce the strength of U. S. units -- sometimes with untrained or partially trained troops -- to bring up to strength units sent overseas.

The Director of the Budget has indicated his approval of this increase, which will not affect the proposed augmentation for 1943, since the 650,000 additional troops for 1942 may be considered as an advance against next year's troop basis.

Your approval of this proposed increase during 1942 is earnestly requested.

For the Joint U. S. Chiefs of Staff:

(Signed) WILLIAM D. LEAHY

WILLIAM D. LEAHY
Admiral, U. S. Navy
Chief of the Staff to the
Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy

"Sept. 2 1942
Approved
Franklin D. Roosevelt"

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