



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL SPECIAL WARFARE DEVELOPMENT GROUP
1636 REGULUS AVE.
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23461-2296

H. DELIVER TO:

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Ser N3/004

7 Jan 14

The Honorable Betsy Hodges
Mayor, City of Minneapolis
350 South 5th Street, Room 331
Minneapolis, MN 55415

Dear Mayor Hodges:

This letter requests your support for proposed low-intensity urban tactical training by the Naval Special Warfare Development Group (NSWDG) in the City of Minneapolis from 10-23 August 2014. Naval Special Warfare troops are constantly refining tactics to learn how to most effectively engage the enemy while ensuring the safety of non-combatants. As we refine our procedures for working in urban settings, targeting the enemy, protecting civilians, and preserving evidence for criminal prosecution, the relationships that we establish with urban law enforcement professionals are critical to our future success.

United States Special Operations Forces, including Naval Special Warfare, have a requirement to stay proficient in urban operations. The proposed training would feature low visibility movement, military operations in urban terrain, manual and precision low-weight explosive breaching, maritime operations, low-altitude precision helicopter operations (to include hover, landing, and rooftop fast-rope insertions), surveillance, and counter-surveillance.

Moreover, military training sites are not sufficient to support all urban training because they lack the variety of building layouts and mass transit platforms our troops face when working in forward urban environments. Additionally, military training sites do not provide realistic urban reconnaissance and surveillance opportunities or permit our forces to work through complex navigation and planning challenges.

To date, representatives of NSWDG have been engaged in preliminary discussions with officials from the Minneapolis Police Department (Commander Rob Skoro) to identify possible properties to be used during our training evolutions. Our intent is to coordinate with all pertinent Minneapolis entities

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and to secure their full cooperation throughout all training evolutions. During this training, the signature of a military presence in the city will be very subtle, as all training will be coordinated with - and take place in the presence of - Minneapolis police officers.

We look forward to the opportunity to conduct this training in and around the City of Minneapolis, and to continue our relationship with members of the Minneapolis Police Department. NSWDC is ready to provide a more detailed brief to you or your designee at your convenience.

Due to the sensitivities of this training, we respectfully request that any information pertaining to this training be excluded from automatic public release. We appreciate the courtesy and coordination efforts received to date. Your cooperation, support, and assistance will greatly enhance our ability to develop and evaluate special capabilities in an urban environment. If you have any questions regarding this training, please contact Lieutenant Tim Boyle at [REDACTED] or Mr. Carlos Sandoval at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,



P. BUTLER
Deputy Commander
By direction

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