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Jennifer Griffin @JenGriffinFNC

Army says in statement LTG Walter Piatt did NOT deny request for National Guard, says quote attributed to him in Washington Post from Capitol Hill Police Chief Sund is inaccurate. Attributable to Lt. Gen. Walter Piatt, the Director of the Army Staff. MORE

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Replying to @JenGriffinFNC

"As soon as Sec. McCarthy received the specific request for assistance from the Capitol Police on the phone call at 2:22 p.m., he ran to the Acting Secretary of Defense's office to request approval. While the two secretaries were meeting, I continued with the call and made clear

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"to the participants of the conference call that I was not the approval authority but that Secretary McCarthy was working the approval. I told the assembled group on the call that we need to work together to develop a plan on how to use National Guard Soldiers ...

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"if their participation was approved. This included options of relieving law enforcement throughout the city so those assets could assist with law enforcement actions at the Capitol, or using the National Guard to set a perimeter at the Capitol ...

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"to provide law enforcement a safe environment in which to conduct clearing operations. In the end, the National Guard was deployed to set the perimeter at the Capitol. It's important that in the midst of a dire situation we have a clear plan and understand the task, purpose,...

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"and role of our Guardsman before we employ them. Creating shared understanding will prevent a complex and potentially dangerous situation from getting worse. I did not make the statement or any comments similar to what was attributed to me by Chief Sund in the Washington Post

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"article - but would note that even in his telling he makes it clear that neither I, nor anyone else from DoD, denied the deployment of requested personnel. The approval to deploy was received approximately forty minutes after that call initiated," LTG Piatt told Fox.

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LTG Walter Piatt was taking notes for Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy on the call and then took over when McCarthy ran down to Acting Defense Secretary Chris Miller's office for approval. Officials on the call describe to me a situation where Chief Sund and others were in a "panic."

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LTG Piatt was trying to calm them down, help them think through plan, while mobilizing the National Guard who had not been prepositioned to help Capitol Hill Police because Sund and others on Capitol Hill told Pentagon they weren't needed on planning calls going back to Dec 31.

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I am told Gen Charlie Flynn, Mike Flynn's brother, who is currently Army Operations Chief at the Pentagon was NOT involved in these phone calls.

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