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*** * * MEDIA ADVISORY/PHOTO RELEASE * * ***

**Former Secretary of State George Shultz and U.S. Senator Jack Reed
Receive Peace Through Strength Award at
5th Annual Reagan National Defense Forum**



(photo caption: Former Secretary of State George Shultz and U.S. Senator Jack Reed, joined by Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute Board of Trustee Michael Castine (far left), stand next to the Peace Through Strength Award, which they will each receive later tonight)

SIMI VALLEY, California — The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute will honor Secretary of State George Shultz and U.S. Senator Jack Reed this evening with the Ronald Reagan Peace Through Strength Award at the fifth annual Reagan National Defense Forum (RNDF).

“Secretary Shultz and Senator Reed both have deep roots in U.S. national defense, having served in the military before going on to leadership positions in government,” said Frederick J. Ryan Jr., chairman of the board of trustees of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation. “They have dedicated their lives to making America stronger and safer, and our world more peaceful. We look forward to honoring their service at the Reagan National Defense Forum.”

“President Reagan’s understanding of strength produced the turning point in the Cold War because strength is our best guarantee to achieve our goals peacefully.” said Secretary Shultz. “Success in diplomacy depends on a backdrop of strength, just as effective diplomacy provides purpose and legitimacy to strength.”

“The American public needs to recognize that our national security and the integrity of our democracy depend on building resilience against those who seek to exploit our differences to weaken our nation,” said Senator Reed. “This is not a republican or democratic issue; it is an issue of national security. Ultimately, our strength lies in our ability to engage with each other respectfully and honestly and work for the common good.”

WHO:

Shultz was the 60th U.S. Secretary of State, serving under President Reagan from 1982 to 1989. He previously served as Secretary of the Treasury, director of the Office of Management and Budget and Secretary of Labor under President Richard Nixon. Shultz served as an active duty U.S. Marine in during World War II.

Reed is the fourth-term, senior U.S. senator from Rhode Island and serves as the Ranking Member on the Senate Armed Services Committee. A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Reed served in the 82nd Airborne Division as an infantry platoon leader, a company commander and a battalion staff officer. He served three terms in the U.S. House of Representatives before being elected to the U.S. Senate for the first time in 1996.

PEACE THROUGH STRENGTH AWARD:

Presented annually at the Reagan National Defense Forum since 2013, the Ronald Reagan Peace Through Strength Award recognizes those who have applied, with constant purpose, a strategy to strengthen our armed forces, support our military men and women striving around the world, reinforce our nation’s defense systems, and safeguard the lives and interests of the American people.

The Ronald Reagan Peace Through Strength Award is represented by a bronze eagle set upon a black granite base. The eagle symbolizes the strength, courage and wisdom of both Reagan and the country that he loved so dearly. Captured within the eagle’s talon is a piece of the Berlin Wall, a powerful reminder that, in Reagan’s own words, “Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction.”

Shultz and Reed join previous award recipients former Vice President Dick Cheney, former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice; U.S. Rep. Adam Smith (D-Wash.); Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.); former Defense Secretaries Ashton Carter, Leon Panetta and Robert Gates; and former Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.)

THE REAGAN NATIONAL DEFENSE FORUM:

The annual Reagan National Defense Forum is North America's premier gathering for defense and national security experts. Each year, the RNDF brings together hundreds of leaders and key stakeholders in the defense community — including members of Congress, civilian officials and military leaders from the Defense Department and industry — to address the state of our national defense and threats to our national security.

The 2017 Forum was held on Dec. 1 and 2 at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California.

For more information, visit www.rndf.org or follow RNDF on Twitter at @ReaganDefense.

About the Reagan Foundation and Institute:

The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and Institute is the nonprofit organization created by President Reagan himself and specifically charged by him with continuing his legacy and sharing his principles - individual liberty, economic opportunity, global democracy and national pride. The Foundation is a non-partisan organization which sustains the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, CA, the Reagan Center for Public Affairs, the Presidential Learning Center, The Air Force One Pavilion and the award-winning Discovery Center, as well as the Reagan Institute in Washington, D.C. The Reagan Library houses over 55 million pages of Gubernatorial, Presidential and personal papers and over 60,000 gifts and artifacts chronicling the lives of Ronald and Nancy Reagan. It also serves as the final resting place of America's 40th President and his First Lady. www.reaganfoundation.org

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Media contact:

Melissa Giller; 805-522-2977; mgiller@reaganfoundation.org