

13th January 1967

1978

To: Secretary General

From: Christian Chapman

Subject: Belgian Resolution on the Future Tasks of the Alliance

Here is an outline of my first thoughts on this subject:

1. The Belgian proposal was put forward basically in response to growing pressures of public opinion. It is now widely felt throughout the West that great changes have occurred over the past 20 years, but it is also felt that NATO has not evolved with the times; to the young, particularly, NATO is an organization of the past.

2. If indeed this is the basic motivation for making this proposal, then the study to be undertaken should be responsive to these public pressures:

- (a) The study should recognize and identify the changes that have occurred and try to define the nature of the situation in Europe today;
- (b) The men who will be chosen to undertake this study will determine, in some measure, its acceptability to public opinion. Ideally, there should be chosen a limited number of men who have international reputations. They should be men who should combine broad experience and continuing responsibility. To these men would be seconded from capitals officials with the necessary expertise.
- (c) The procedures which these men would follow in carrying out their assignment should obtain the widest possible participation and publicity. I am very much attracted by the idea of Mr. van Campen that public hearings be held;
- (d) The study should produce recommendations for tangible actions (of course, here is the principal danger of the whole exercise: that after raising public expectations the final recommendations may appear to be inconsequential).

3. The study should produce, it seems to me, a paper in five parts:

- (a) A general review of the major developments over the past 20 years which have produced a changed world-wide situation, e.g. the death of Stalin and the change in the USSR to a collegiate leadership; frustration of Soviet attempts at forceful expansion - Iran, Greece, Berlin, Cuba; the failure of Communism to win over a single country except China and Cuba

since /

Sixia
UAR
Guinea
not by Brussels

since 1945; the growing disparity between the industrialized and the Third World; and the evident success of Western societies compared to the continuing difficulties of Communist countries;

(b) An assessment of the present situation in Europe:

- (i) Situation in the USSR;
- (ii) Situation in the Eastern European countries;
- (iii) Situation in the DDR.

An objective assessment would indicate the measure of progress that these countries have achieved but would also note the major constraints that have developed, particularly in the Soviet Union - e.g. their economies are not competitive with those of Western countries; there is a growing sense of nationalism so that Eastern European countries are not as amenable to Soviet dictates; in all these countries there is a rising group of people with "stakes in their societies", or "new class"; and the disruptive impact caused by the policies of Communist China;

- (c) The stabilisation of the situation in Europe has been paralleled by continuing instability in other areas of the world. It is evident that rich Western countries cannot preserve their own welfare in the future unless a greater degree of stability can be achieved in the Third World. This objective is held in common by all 15 Allies. Where difficulties arise is in the question of the means to achieve this objective. A frank recognition of this fact would serve to clarify the attitudes of members of the Alliance to problems outside the NATO area;

- (d) Review of NATO organization and procedures to ascertain whether they are adequate to their tasks. NATO should serve as the principal forum of the members to consult and seek to develop common assessments on situations both in Europe and in the rest of the world. Common assessments might eventually produce common actions.

*Why include
that last paragraph
concerning?
What is the use of
NATO if a mission
of world stability is
not kept up to date
by it?*

- (e) Finally, the study should address itself to what remains the principal task of the Alliance: to achieve a stable settlement in Europe. The study should review past plans - such as the 1959 Peace Plan - and present proposals - such as a European Security Conference - with the objective of trying to draw up perhaps not another Peace Plan initially but at least a procedure which might be adopted to bring about eventually a resolution of Europe's fundamental problems.

questions à reciter :
13/1/67

*est-ce que
m. Charles
disait*

a) *historical analysis*
b) *current European
situation*
c) *European pillar
(Germany and others)*
d) *outside areas
of influence*
e) *organization,
institutions, procedure*

*milgarg
- out of area
- consultation
- east west fund
problem of bridge
- European pillar
- exchange forum
- common organization*