

DEA/67/95
12th April, 1967.3-1-02B
(66-67)

BRIEF FOR THE CHAIRMAN
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL ON WEDNESDAY 12th APRIL, 1967

ITEM V

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

You may wish to say:

Now that we are about to proceed to the next stage of our work on the Future Tasks of the Alliance, and that next week the Sub-Groups will hold their initial meetings under the chairmanship of national rapporteurs, the question of publicity arises.

In view of the quality of the rapporteurs who have been named and of the general interest evoked by our undertaking, I consider that it is both wise and realistic to inform the public of our progress. The problem has already been posed to the British Government who has been asked a question in the House of Commons on the subject. The British Government will answer by giving the name of Ambassador Watson, the rapporteur they have nominated.

Therefore, I propose ~~that~~ a press release be issued by the NATO Press Officer, leaving to capitals the possibility of giving the press additional information regarding their rapporteurs. I have had a draft release prepared which has been circulated.

Can I now have the Council's agreement that this very simple release be issued tomorrow, Thursday, at 6 p.m.?

[/ Note to the Chairman: The chief issue will revolve around the question of including the subjects to be studied. We recommend their inclusion, because a rapporteur must report on something. To give the names of rapporteurs without indicating what they are to report on invites leaks from all capitals. This will result in considerable confusion and more information being made available than may be the case if a release such as the one we propose is issued.]