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OTAN-NATO

PLACE DU MARÉCHAL DE LATTRE DE TASSIGNY  
PARIS XVII - FRANCE

NATO SECRET

April 17, 1967

Dear Colleague:

Mr. Jeffrey Kitchen, Acting Rapporteur of Sub-Group 3 on the Future Tasks of the Alliance, is circulating the attached preliminary outline as a basis for discussions on April 18. I would appreciate it if you would bring it to the attention of your representative on Sub-Group 3 as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

*Stephen T. Johnson*  
Stephen T. Johnson  
Secretary of Delegation

Attachment:  
Preliminary Outline

NATO SECRET

April 17, 1967

FUTURE TASKS OF THE ALLIANCE

SUB-GROUP 3

Rapporteur's Preliminary Outline

Overall objectives of the study on the Future Tasks of the Alliance. The overall objectives of the Future of the Alliance study are:

- A. To analyze the political events since the Treaty was signed,
- B. To reassess the role of NATO in the current setting, and
- C. To describe the major Future Tasks of the Alliance and the procedures for fulfilling them.

Particular emphasis is to be placed on improving consultation within the Alliance. The Study itself is envisioned as a form of consultation.

The principal objective of the first phase of the Study is to lay the essential groundwork for the assessment of the Future Tasks of the Alliance.

With respect to the defensive policy of the Alliance, it may be useful to begin with a concise review of the general military situation as it existed when NATO was founded, and the policies that were adopted for NATO Defense at that time and to compare these with the present military situation and the policies that seem relevant today. This may help us to examine the present in better perspective and assess the Future Tasks of the Alliance more realistically.

Scope of the study on general defensive policy of the Alliance

There appears to be general agreement among the members of the Special Group that this Study of the Defensive Policy of the Alliance should focus on the political aspects of military questions. While it is not possible to separate entirely the military from the political aspects of NATO policy, it seems clear that this Study should not attempt to deal with force requirements or the strategic concept for NATO Defense which are currently being reviewed in other bodies of the Alliance. (Some of the major related Defense activities now being undertaken elsewhere in NATO are enumerated in the attachment.) On the other

And, it does seem important that this Study review in the main outlines of the current politico-military situation, and examine some of the major postulates which underlie the military strategy of the Alliance. It also should consider prospects for arms control measures and their relationship to European security. We see a major focus of this study of defensive policy being an examination of the role that an integrated military force plays in furthering the wide range of political objectives of NATO.

Suggested outline of the study

- A. Brief historical review of NATO Defense Policy
- B. Trends affecting the Defense Policy of the Alliance
  - 1) Political and economic trends in Western Europe
  - 2) Political and economic trends in Eastern Europe
  - 3) Trends in Defense Technology
  - 4) The effect of these trends on NATO Defense Policy
- C. Assessment of the current politico-military situation
  - 1) The nature of deterrence in the mid-1960's. The role of the European members in deterrence
  - 2) The Soviet threat to the Alliance
  - 3) The likelihood of conflict in Western Europe. How could a war arise in Europe?
- D. The relationship of NATO Defense Policies to the broader political objectives of the Alliance
  - 1) The relationship of deterrence to detente. How far has detente progressed and what implications does this have for NATO Defense Policy?
  - 2) The relationship of NATO military policies and organization to European unity. The continuing need for an integrated defense effort.
  - 3) The relationship of NATO Military Policies to Trans-Atlantic cooperation. Possibilities for improving cooperation.
  - 4) The relationship of NATO Military Policies to future European political settlement.
  - 5) Prospects for arms control; the relationship of arms control measures to NATO's defense requirements and capabilities.
  - 6) How can modification in NATO Defense Policies and military posture contribute to broader European political objectives?

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E. Conclusions

- 1) Defense Policy for the short term
- 2) Defense Policy for the long term

Attachment

Resume of Related Current Defense Activities in NATO

1. Revision of political guidance to military commanders - now in preparation by the Defense Planning Committee.
2. Re-examination of the NATO strategic concept - now in preparation by the Military Committee.
3. New appreciation of the military situation through 1975 - now in preparation by the Military Committee.
4. Re-examination of the force mix and force requirements - under continuing review of the DPWG/DPC.
5. Technological changes and strategic mobility - under consideration by the Committee of National Armaments Directors.
6. Concept for flank reinforcements - now under consideration by the DPWG/DPC and MC.
7. Strategic and tactical nuclear weapons available for the defense of the Alliance - under consideration by the NPG.
8. Enhancing the role of non-nuclear powers in nuclear planning - under consideration by the NPG.