

## NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

## CONSEIL DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD

NATO UNCLASSIFIED  
and  
PUBLIC DISCLOSED

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COUNCIL D-1/5

November 18, 1949

NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

(Second Session)

Directive to the Military Production and Supply Board

The attached directive was approved by the North Atlantic Council on November 18, 1949, in Washington, on the recommendation of the Defence Committee.

Attached also is the letter from the Chairman of the Defence Committee to the Chairman of the Council transmitting the directive with the recommendation that it be approved.

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The Pentagon  
Washington 25, D.C.  
November 18, 1949

NORTH ATLANTIC DEFENCE COMMITTEE

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

SUBJECT: North Atlantic Defence Committee Directive to  
the Military Production and Supply Board.

"1. The enclosed directive to the Military Production and Supply Board, approved by the North Atlantic Defence Committee at its first meeting on 5 October 1949, is submitted to the North Atlantic Council with the recommendation that it be approved.

"2. Pending action by the Council, a meeting of the Military Production and Supply Board has been called, provisionally, in London on 1 November 1949.

/s/ LOUIS JOHNSON  
Chairman"

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North Atlantic Defence Committee Directive  
to the Military Production and Supply Board

I

1. In accordance with the decision of the North Atlantic Council on September 17, 1949, and in furtherance of Article 9 of the Treaty, there is hereby established a Military Production and Supply Board.

II

The following general provisions shall govern the operation of the North Atlantic Military Production and Supply Board:

1. The North Atlantic Military Production and Supply Board shall be composed of a representative at the sub-ministerial level from each signatory country. It shall report directly to the Defence Committee.
2. The Board shall establish and maintain close working relations with the appropriate military bodies set up under the Defence Committee. It shall look to them for information on military requirements and work with them to insure that, insofar as feasible, the military production and procurement program supports defence plans effectively. The Board shall also work in close coordination with the military bodies on the promotion of standardization of parts and end products of military equipment, and provide them with technical advice on the production and development of new or improved weapons. To facilitate the fullest cooperation and exchange of information between them on matters of joint interest, the Board shall establish and direct a suitably representative liaison group on a working level in Washington to work with the Standing Group.
3. The Board shall maintain close working relations with the finance and economic machinery to be established by the Council, and look to it for guidance on all relevant economic and financial factors.
4. The North Atlantic Military Production and Supply Board is responsible to the Defence Committee for the performance of the following functions, having regard for the principle of self-help and mutual aid in the field of military production and supply.

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a. The review of the military supply situation on the basis of data to be secured from the appropriate military bodies on military materiel requirements and on the current availability of military materiel to meet such requirements.

b. The recommendations to the Defence Committee of ways and means of increasing available supplies where they fall short of requirements, either from production, surplus equipment, or equipment economically capable of rehabilitation. In preparing such recommendations, account shall be taken of strategic factors, of physical capabilities of individual countries to produce military materiel, of the importance of securing maximum efficiency and integration of production, and of the guidance furnished by the finance and economic machinery with respect to financial and economic considerations.

c. The promotion of more efficient methods for producing military equipment and of the standardization of parts and end products of military equipment, including conservation in the use of strategic and critical materials, and including advice to the appropriate military bodies on the production problems involved in proposed new weapons or modifications in existing weapons.

5. The Board may delegate to any Regional Supply Board which may be established by the Governments of a Region any of its functions which in its judgment, can be better performed by regional boards. Actions of regional boards under such delegations shall be under the general guidance of, and in accordance with the general policies laid down by the North Atlantic Board, and shall be subject to its coordination and review.
6. The Board shall provide itself with such subordinate bodies and staff assistance as may be necessary to carry out its functions. In particular, there shall be, in addition to the liaison group in Washington, referred to in paragraph 2, a permanent working staff in London, composed of qualified personnel representing interested countries, to carry on the day-to-day work of the Board. The Board shall have a Secretary, with suitable assistance, to perform secretarial and administrative functions.

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7. The Board shall meet at such times and places as may be required. Its secretariat and working staff shall be located in London. The Board shall decide its own rules of procedure. Chairmanship shall be held in turn by the parties according to the alphabetical order in the English language beginning with the United States. Each party shall hold the office for one year. If any party does not wish to accept the Chairmanship, it is passed to the next party in alphabetical order.