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handed by [unclear] to  
[unclear]  
[unclear] 19.61

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1. When the Permanent Representatives of France, the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States called officially on me yesterday and handed me the document "Draft Instructions to General Norstad" ("Instructions au Général Norstad") there was some uncertainty whether this document was still a draft or whether by handing this document over to the Secretary General it had, at that moment, become an official document.

I must point out that by receiving this paper I cannot be expected to have accepted any responsibility for its contents, nor do I consider that by this step coordination with the appropriate NATO authorities has been effected. If my responsibility were involved it would be my duty to pass this document on to the Council for discussion.

2. In a period of crisis, such as we are living in at this moment, it clearly is among the tasks of the Secretary General to:

- a. maintain the unity of the Alliance;
- b. seek to improve the strength and effectiveness of the Alliance;
- c. ensure the proper functioning of the agreed institutions and safeguard the existing chains of command in the political and military fields and thereby the position of the political and military authorities.

3. The dangers which are threatening the Alliance do not come only from outside. Problems may also arise from inside the Alliance.

Only yesterday, during the first consultation on the

political and diplomatic aspects of the Berlin crisis in the Council, one of the Permanent Representatives, who was supported in other terms by others, used the expression that there exists "une amertume profonde" about the lack of consultation.

My impression is that in case I were to circulate the document as it is worded now to the members of the Alliance the result would be disastrous.

4. I can only refrain from circulating the document if it is clearly understood that:
  - a. by receiving it I have not accepted any responsibility;
  - b. this document can be considered as a paper purely intended for the furtherance of military planning;
  - c. any paragraph or expression that could be explained as going beyond "military planning" (and here I include not only military action but e.g. also the setting up of new authorities or chains of command or new systems of communication in the military and political fields) would be considered as draft suggestions for which in some way or other approval from the Council, which only has supreme authority, has to be asked.
  
5. I may add that it is my conviction that for the right functioning of NATO in a period of crisis or in time of war new rules have to be developed. I am equally

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convinced that such rules can be found and will realistically be accepted by all members.

I would be fully prepared to help in formulating such new rules and in seeking to convince the Council to adopt them.

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Paris, September 2, 1961.