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BERLIN CONTINGENCY PLANNINGDraft Brief for Deputy Secretary General

I will be very brief in introducing this item. The object of PC/62/641 is quite simply to try to tidy up a debate which has inevitably ranged over a wide field, and to lay the foundations for the orderly conduct of our future discussion of a subject which is both complex and urgent. I hope that the International Staff paper will have served its end, and if some Permanent Representatives feel that I have failed to represent points to which they have drawn attention, I can only plead that in order to avoid overloading an already lengthy paper, I have tried to keep it down to basic essentials. It is certainly not the intention to pre-judge the decisions of the Council on points of substance. These can, I feel, only be dealt with either by the NATO military authorities or the Four Powers, as the case may be. I understand that the NATO military authorities are already prepared to answer those questions which are addressed to them. For the remainder, I think it is mainly for the Three, or the Four, Powers to comment.

Although there is obviously a good deal of overlap between the four main sections, I would suggest that we try as far as possible to run through the points which we have to settle in the order in which they are presented in the paper. I would suggest, however, that we could already agree that the Alerts problem should be handled as part of a separate exercise which will start tomorrow with Council discussion of SCN-528-62, preceded by a briefing from representatives of SACEUR and SACLANIT.

Does the Council agree to proceed as suggested ?