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Permanent Delegation
of the Federal Republic of Germany
to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization

PARIS 16e, 21 Nov. 1962

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Mr. Colonna di Paliano
Acting Secretary General
North Atlantic Treaty Organization
Paris



Dear Secretary General,

It has been agreed at today's Council meeting that the statements made by some Permanent Representatives on the subject of "Alert Measures in Connection with Military Contingency Planning on Berlin" should be forwarded in writing to the Secretariat General.

I have the honour to transmit to you as enclosure the text of the statement made by Ambassador Grewe.

Yours sincerely

- 1 enclosure -

SAHM
(SAHM)

Deputy Permanent Representative

Mr. Vank
for registration
R.C.

Paris, November 21, 1962

Ambassador Grewe's Statement on Alert Measures in
Connection with Military Contingency Planning on Berlin

(1) My government considers that the Standing Group Document SGM-593-62 (revised) is a useful planning basis for alert measures in connection with the military contingency planning on Berlin. In particular, we agree to the phased plan contained in para. 15 of this Document, where the intended alert stages are linked up with the corresponding operations of the three powers and/or NATO. We also consider the break-down of phase I into two sub-phases as useful because this makes the whole planning more flexible.

(2) Regarding para. 20 a

The Federal Government agrees with the view that the national authorities and the NATO Council should be immediately and fully informed about the situation concerning Berlin and about the measures taken by the four powers. My authorities feel that the existing cooperation between SACBUR, the Standing Group Representative and the NATO Council has proved its value. As was shown by the events in the spring of this year when the Soviets tried to interfere with air traffic to Berlin, it was possible to ensure the prompt and complete information of the Council through the existing channels. In addition, the Standing Group Representative has emphasized several times in the Council that the existing mechanism for the information of the NATO Council was being continuously examined for possible improvement. The Federal Government, therefore, interprets para. 20 a of the Standing Group Document as meaning that the measures recommended in that paragraph have already been largely implemented. Consequently,

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it does not appear necessary to set up an additional procedure but only to seek further improvement along the lines hitherto pursued.

(3) Regarding para. 20 b, c

The Federal Government has taken all the necessary measures in order that the gaps which have existed for many years in its national legislation are now filled as early as possible. Draft laws for emergency legislation including the necessary constitutional amendments are completed and have been adopted by the government. The government will do everything so that they can be enacted by the legislative bodies in the near future.

A review of the measures which have up to now been the subject of German reservations has already made satisfactory progress. I can inform you today that with effect from 10 January 1963 the national reservations on a number of alert measures will be lifted. The measures concern the fields of commercial shipping, infrastructure, and the increased capacity of logistical facilities, (measures SLF, SOF, SOK, SOW, RLI). Four of them are measures of simple alert and one is a measure of reinforced alert. I am satisfied to state that as a result five orange-coloured boxes on the chart which is known to you can be changed to blue.

I am also in a position to communicate that the Federal Government has agreed that the operational command of the German assigned forces be assumed by SACEUR not - as up to now - at reinforced alert but already when simple alert is declared or when the military counter-surprise system is put into effect.

(4) The Federal Government agrees to the recommendations as formulated in para. 22 of the Standing Group Document.

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