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PO 61-427

cc: Deputy Secretary General  
DSG/ASG for Economics and Finance  
Mr. D.V. Bendall

NATO SECRET

11th July, 1962

You will recall that last 27th September in PO/61/765 the Council undertook the study of NATO planning for the Berlin emergency. The Council received a report by the French, United Kingdom and United States Governments concerning LIVE OAK planning instructions from their governments to General Norstad (Annex A to the aforesaid document). At the same time the Council studied instructions to the NATO military authorities in connection with Berlin planning which were approved by the Council on 25th October 1961 (O-M(61)104). The instructions to the NATO military authorities recognized that there must be proper co-ordination between LIVE OAK planning and NATO planning and at the same time the major NATO Military Commanders were instructed to prepare plans to be sent to the Standing Group for appraisal in consultation with the Military Committee in accordance with established NATO procedure and forwarded to the NATO Council for approval by governments through the Permanent Representatives.

A complicating factor, from a procedural point of view has been the document which was introduced to the Council in February 1962 by the United States Permanent Representative, on behalf of the Tripartite Powers, concerning the relationships between Tripartite and NATO planning (BQD-M-22, modified). This document was discussed in the Council on April 11th and 16th and it was left that

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Permanent Representative of the  
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to the North Atlantic Council.

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the questions which had been raised by Delegations would be discussed later at the time of the Council examination of the NATO Commanders' plans.

At that time it was anticipated that this matter would certainly be examined, at the latest, shortly after the Athens meeting. It has now been held in abeyance these several months. I am given to understand that the Commanders' plans are being held up in the Standing Group and Military Committee because the Quadripartite Powers have not completed co-ordinating their responses among themselves.

It is recognized that there should be co-ordination among the Quadripartite Powers on matters affecting Berlin. Nevertheless, I am under some pressure from a number of Ambassadors about the protracted delay. In accordance with the arrangement agreed to by the Council in C-M(61)104 the plans of the NATO Commanders should be processed and come to the Council. Therefore I urge that you make every effort through your Governments to see that these reports come to the Council at the earliest possible time.

An identical letter is being sent to the Permanent Representatives of the remaining Quadripartite Powers.

D. U. STICKER