

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS  
ALLIED POWERS EUROPE

PARIS, FRANCE

NATO SECRET

6th September, 1954.

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MEMORANDUM FOR : CHIEF OF STAFF ← 6 Sept

SUBJECT : Planning for Forward Strategy

1. You asked me to advise you on what steps could be taken to initiate action on planning for the use of German forces under the forward strategy.

2. Under STAND 385, the SHAPE Liaison office is the point of contact between NATO Military agencies and the Interim Committee. Release of top secret information through this channel can be approved by SACEUR, but any higher classification needs Standing Group approval.

3. SACEUR's overall deployment plans for German land force contingents was sent to Gen. de Larminat by the Chief of Staff on 9 Jly 1952 and this plan was revised on 21 Nov. 1952 after discussion with Generals Speidel and Heusinger.

4. In Oct. 1953, SACEUR authorised CINCENT to prepare and submit a plan on the related problems of deployment, organisation and command structure. This plan was recently submitted to this H.Q. It did not take into account the strategic concepts of the NAG Study.

5. The EDC Interim Committee is being wound up on 30 Sept. Meanwhile it is in suspended animation, and there being no EDC, we cannot profitably deal with it officially.

6. From all I can learn, the ideas of most of the EDC nations as expressed informally in the EDC Interim Committee, are that whatever system is eventually agreed for the formation of a German contingent, the size should follow the pattern of the "accord speciale" to the EDC which provided for 12 divisions and 1300 first line aircraft.

7. I feel that we must continue to think in terms of the forward strategy and should base our ideas on 12 German divisions and 1300 German first line aircraft. We must await the detailed comments of the Army Group Commanders on the way they want to deploy these German forces in the light of the New Approach Study. Once we are clear on these, it might be as well to talk to the Germans informally. This might be handled better from SHAPE; it might be embarrassing for Marshal Juin.

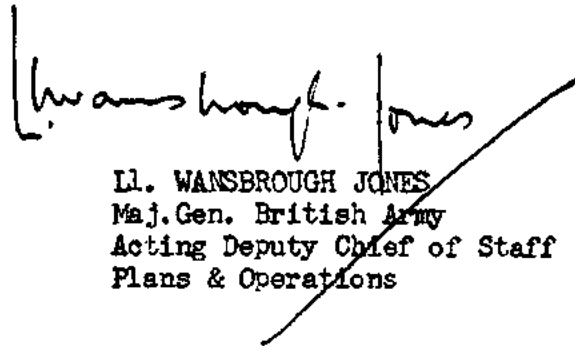
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8. I suggest that you make a reference, both at your next Staff conference and at your conference with Chiefs of Staff, to the need for thinking forward, especially with respect to:

- a. organisation for atomic war;
- b. peacetime and operational deployment;
- c. Command structure and communications;
- d. logistic support.



LT. WANSBROUGH JONES  
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