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JS n° 61/107

6 Sept. 61

NATO SECRET

NOTE TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL

SUBJECT : Assessment of the measures announced by some NATO countries in their statements at the Council meeting of the 4th september

Following his request, the Secretary General will find below a very brief assessment<sup>(1)</sup> of the measures announced by some NATO countries in their statements at the Council Meeting of the 4th September.

I. Countries which did not give a reply

- Canada : will make its views known after its session of Parliament on 7th September.
- Greece : will reply on 10th September.
- Norway : has not yet been able to complete its study (elections within a very short time).
- Turkey : has not yet received instructions.

II. Countries who do nothing linked with Berlin

- Portugal : as already stated, Portugal is not in a position to provide a new contribution.
- Belgium : is not prepared to do anything additional to her defence contribution as described in the 1961 Interim Review Memorandum. However, "if the political attitude of the Alliance would make it necessary, the Belgian Government would ask Parliament to agree to a further re-inforcement of Belgian forces". The Belgian Representative stressed that military decisions were to be linked with the political attitude commonly agreed within NATO.

III. Countries who announce measures

- Denmark : Reply refers only to measures to be taken by 1961; nothing for 1962. Two detailed SACEUR's recommendations out of 8 are already fulfilled.
  - Requested increase in personnel : the Danish Authorities do not take measures; They only "make preparations to the effect that measures can be taken within a very short time".
  - Prepared to accept Baltic Command Organization, but want to discuss about it with SACEUR before formal acceptance.
  - No mention of equipment problems stressed in two SACEUR recommendations and of any possibility of achieving nuclear capability.

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(1) This assessment can only be very brief and tentative since it is dealing with military matters and the Service experts of my Directorate are in Italy on a mission in connection with the 1961 Interim Review.

- France : The French government is ready to reinforce to the maximum extent their forces in Europe in order to meet SACEUR's requests.
  - a) Army : SACEUR's requests for end 1961 and during 1962 will be satisfied by transfer from Algeria of two divisions whose assignment to NATO will be decided if necessary.
  - b) Navy : No indication of any measures being contemplated.
  - c) Air Force : SACEUR's requests for end 1961 will be largely fulfilled. They will be completely satisfied as regards AWX and FB aircraft. No indication is given of measures contemplated during 1962.
  
- Germany : The Federal government is ready to make every effort in order to meet SACEUR's requests for end 1961 and during 1962.  
However, shortfalls will still remain in some sectors.
  - a) Army : SACEUR's end 1961 requests will be fulfilled.  
For 1962, four additional brigades, out of 8 requested, will be ready.
  - b) Navy : In general SACEUR's requests will be satisfied.
  - c) Air Force : By end 1961, shortfall of 120 aircraft, i.e. 25% of the total requested. During 1962, shortfall of 200 aircraft, i.e. 28% of the total requested.
  
- Italy : The Italian authorities seem to have decided to take all possible measures within their power to meet a large part of the actions requested by SACEUR. However, they insist upon their reliance on U.S. aid, especially for reequipping and meeting the required standards.
  - a) Army : Calling up of 24,000 reservists by 15 October 1961 for 60 days.  
Draft call of 50,000 men in addition to the ordinary number of a draft class as from 1st November 1961 and to be completed before end 1962.  
Logistics : A new procurement programme has been prepared.
  - b) Navy : Manning : no problem.  
State of readiness : measures requested are being taken, except for those which presuppose delivery of equipment through U.S. aid.
  - c) Air Force : Manning : measures requested are being taken.  
State of readiness : A number of actions requested will be implemented in time, bearing in mind that some are dependent on U.S. aid.
  
- Luxembourg : The Luxembourg reply is an expression of willingness to speed up as much as possible its plans which correspond to SACEUR's request. However, much depends on early legislative action, especially in the field of personnel.

- Netherlands : is prepared to take quite a number of the steps suggested - raising of manning level of M-day units, moving one brigade group to Germany and retaining 4/96 Hunter squadrons for a longer period than had been planned - and assumes that its Allies have taken or will take comparable action.

- Considers that certain other measures could not be carried out without mobilisation, but she is prepared to consider implementation of them in consultation with her Allies - 24 hour operation of control and reporting units, increase in combat ready rate of aircraft and air crews.

- The remaining recommendations - increase balanced logistics support, modernisation of Air Force with one squadron of F 104 G aircraft and the provision of additional army units (including an armoured group), the first still under study and no action proposed for the latter two - could also probably be achieved if mobilisation were ordered.

- United Kingdom : Nothing new as compared with the measures already announced on 8th August : "shortage of trained manpower makes it impossible to improve on these measures in the time scale laid down if the build-up is to be maintained over a long period".

- The United Kingdom Government is undertaking "a thorough re-examination of the whole military problem in the light of the detailed proposals made by SACEUR in order to see what additional measures, if any, might be taken in the longer term".

- United States : The United States reply gives detailed information about the specific steps taken to implement the very important measures announced on 8th August. Even if no further measures are contemplated, the pace at which steps have been taken is so rapid, that already many of the actions contemplated are in force. Some examples of the most striking actions are given below :

- The number of aircraft of Strategic Air Command at 15-minute ground alert has been increased from 33 1/3% to 50% of the combat ready force.

- Army : 3 United States Army Reserve Divisions are now combat ready and 3 additional ones will be ready very soon. In addition, two United States Marine divisions/air wings are at full combat readiness. A draft call for 25,000 has been approved for September.

- Navy : Activation of a great number of naval units (from CVS down to DD) for anti-submarine and other missions. 18 ASW Squadrons will be on active duty by October 1961. 33 DE will be placed on active duty beginning October 1961, and 7 additional DE will report shortly thereafter.

- Air Force : 12 tactical air squadrons and 6 strategic bomber wings, previously planned for de-activation will be retained. 18 fighter bomber squadrons, 4 reconnaissance squadrons and 1 tactical air-control group are being activated from the Air National Guard. 6 c-97 transport squadrons and 5 C.124 transport squadrons are being called up from the Air National Guard.

