

NATO SECRET

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Service Experts

A R M Y

Summary of Netherlands' measures related
to the Plans of Action.

ARMY

Measures taken:

1. The period of service for conscripts has been raised from 21 to 22 months for officers, NCO's and specialists, and from 18 to 20 months for other ranks. For assigned units and their support this results in a manning level of 92%.
2. Reinforced 121 light brigade has been stationed in Germany on a temporary basis (approximately till the end of the year).
3. At the moment, and for a period of four weeks, the brigades of one division are on exercise in Germany.
4. The training of atomic delivery units has been raised to a very high level, by on-the-job training with 7th US Army. This makes the SHAPE recommendations in SHAPE/153/61 dated 20/10/61, no. 3 Army and no. 4 of Annex II superfluous.

Measures envisaged:

5. One second echelon RCT will be made available to strengthen 1 (NL) Corps. This sixth brigade can be called up even before simple alert. Similar measures are prepared for supporting units (three tank companies and the necessary logistic units). As a result the recommendations for the Army and in general should request M-day status, instead of asking for one additional brigade.
6. In the equipment field, delivery of ammunition has been accelerated, negotiations with MAAG to obtain urgently required equipment and stocks are in progress, the replacement of obsolescent equipment is proceeding and the greater part of the equipment for mechanisation and motorisation of the two M-day divisions (based on national plans) has been ordered, to be delivered between end-1962 and mid 1964. Orders for the remainder will soon be placed.

Influence on draft Chapter.

7. The International Staff conclusion (e) should read:

While the replies to the Plans of Action indicate that measures have been taken to correct some of the deficiencies, particularly in the field of manpower, no information is yet available with regard to the financing of the measures accepted.

Influence on military comments.

8. It seems to me that SHAPE comments in 153/61, dated 20/10/61 should be changed accordingly. My suggestions would be:

(a) II - A - Army

- (i) In the table a reference "(e)" should be added after each
- (c) and after 3 in each of the columns RCT.
- (ii) A note (e) should be added, reading:
"Measures are being prepared to strengthen the division, mentioned in (c) with one of the mobilisable RCT's, which will be called up even before simple alert".

(b) In III - A - 1 - b. the third line might read:

"Though gratified by the envisaged strengthening of 1 (NL) Corps with three tank companies and logistic units, and of 4th division with one of the second echelon RCT's, all to be called up before simple alert, SHAPE urges...etc."

(c) III - A - 1 c. Insert a full stop after "delivery units".
Delete the rest of the sentence.

(d) IV - Conclusions.

- (i) The improved capability of the Netherlands Army might lead to the qualification "at least a moderate capability".
- (ii) To point a might be added:
", for which a second echelon brigade will be available before simple alert".
- (iii) Point c might be deleted.

(e) V - Provisional list

- (1) In recommendation 1 the word "additional" might be deleted.
- (2) Recommendation 3 might be deleted.

(f) Annex II

Changes, corresponding to (e) in recommendations 2 and 4.