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cc. DSG
DSG/ASG Economic et Finances

NATO SECRET

31st January, 1962

I have just received a document (BQD-M-22) from the Permanent Representatives of the French, United Kingdom and United States Governments concerning the relationship between NATO and the Three Powers in the planning and control of Berlin contingency operations.

I will be studying this paper and perhaps discussing it further with the Four-Power Ambassadors during my forthcoming visit to Washington. Berlin contingency planning has not been raised in the Council since last October and therefore I think it most important that this paper should be brought to the Council's attention at an early date. In order to lay the proper foundation and create the right atmosphere, the Council should receive as a first step a briefing from you on "Live-Oak" and NATO military planning in connection with Berlin. Preferably, I would think this might cover the same grounds as the one which you gave the Military Committee. It would be most helpful also if, in the course of this presentation, you were to make clear to the Council the extent to which the Alliance's forward strategy can be implemented under the present circumstances.

General Lauris Norstad, USAF,
Supreme Allied Commander Europe,
SHAPE.

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Since this is a pressing matter, I hope very much that you will find it possible to give such a briefing to the Council on either 13th or 14 February, preferably the latter. I shall not have returned from the United States until February 10th and have to be in Brussels on 15th/16th February.

D. U. STIKKER