

52

Downgraded to Public
SEE: PDN *21 Disclosure*
REG 296
103

2000 1998 1975 1973 1972 1979 1981 1988 1999 1989 1965 1977 1991 1993 1983 1984 1985 1992 1987 1986 1994 1990

2007

CHER ARCHIVES

GOSMIC TOP SECRET

RDC/62/108

Copy No. 2 of 5 copies

1993

2

1983 1984 1985

1992 1987 1986

1994 1990

BERLIN CONTINGENCY PLANS - RELATED CIVIL MEASURES

30 NF

To : Secretary General

cc. : DSG/ASG Economics and Finance
SGREP

I think it well to draw attention to the question of the measures, both national and international, in civilian fields which should presumably be taken in parallel with possible military measures under the BERCON plans.

2. I notice that in SACLAN's plans - I have not yet seen SACLAN's - certain assumptions are made with regard to the implementation of Alert Measures prior to the initiation of the Maritime Contingency Plan measures. For example, before MARCONS I and II are implemented almost all of SACLAN's Simple Alert measures and certain Reinforced Alert measures are assumed to have been taken. Some of these are in connection with the activation of NATO civilian agencies, and other civilian activities. There are, however, many other civilian precautionary measures of equal importance, but not directly related to military plans, which should also be put into effect both on a national and international plane.

3. It has always been argued that prior warning of impending hostilities is of the highest importance if we are to be as adequately prepared as possible for that eventuality. In the case of the implementation of the BERCON plans, which cannot but lead to a period of acute political tension, we have in fact got prior warning. Since it is NATO which is initiating action. We are therefore in the most favourable position to implement, in advance of hostilities, such civil precautionary measures as have already been agreed as being desirable. A list of such measures is set out in AC/98-D/146; they cover a wide variety of action in the fields of governmental control, communications, supplies, transport, civil defence, etc. It would, I believe, be highly unwise to put a BERCON plan into effect unless, for example, such governments as possessed them, had moved to safe relocation sites: emergency hospitals outside target areas should have been manned; evacuation plans where such exist should have been put into effect and warning systems and civil defence arrangements should have been activated. These and a host of other measures

are complementary to the implementation of the BERCON plans.

4. It is not suggested that you should necessarily raise these issues with the Council at present, but rather that you should bear in mind that there are many civilian measures which should, I suggest, be implemented if NATO decides to react militarily against certain possible enemy action vis-à-vis Berlin. In addition to such measures as I have referred to above, decisions will of course be required with regard to other types of action, e.g. economic or psychological.

Robert