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NORTH ATLANTIC MILITARY COMMITTEE

COMITE MILITAIRE DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD

Standing Group

Groupe Permanent

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SGM-503-62

Per Authority IMSM-431-99

11 September 1962

By JACOBARE Date 21-1-00

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY GENERAL, NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

ATTENTION: ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL FOR PRODUCTION, LOGISTICS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

SUBJECT: NATO Basic Military Requirement for a Short Range ASW Escort Vessel (ASAP)

Reference: C-M(59)82, 31 August 1959

1. Pursuant to the responsibility assigned by reference, the Standing Group, after consultation with the Military Committee in Permanent Session, hereby establishes a NATO Basic Military Requirement for a short range ASW escort vessel, with the statement thereof at Enclosure 1. Appended to the statement of the NATO Basic Military Requirement are comments which the Standing Group have not found it feasible to incorporate in the statement.

2. This NATO Basic Military Requirement is identified as follows:

Title: Short Range ASW Escort Vessel (ASAP)

Number: NBMR-25

FOR THE STANDING GROUP:

Joseph A. Woida

JOSEPH A. WOIDA
Colonel, USAF
Assistant Secretary

JAW/bmm

1 ENCLOSURE:
Statement of
NBMR-25, w/1 Appendix

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ENCLOSURE 1

STATEMENT OF A NATO BASIC MILITARY REQUIREMENT
FOR A SHORT RANGE ASW ESCORT VESSEL (ASAP)

NBMR-25

1 TASK

2 1. To protect shipping on short-haul convoy routes against
3 attacks from modern submarines; to provide limited protection
4 against attacks from the air and from light surface forces; and
5 to contribute to the defense against amphibious invasion.

6 CAPABILITY

7 2. The Short Range ASW Escort Vessel must able to:

8 a. Detect, by both active and passive means, bottomed
9 submarines and submerged modern high performance submarines.

10 To achieve the maximum detection range and to reduce the
11 probability of enemy attack, ship operating noises should
12 be minimized at all speeds. The underwater search rate
13 should be the best that can be achieved with the most
14 feasible combination of ship speed and maximum detection
15 range;

16 b. Destroy such submarines from minimum contact
17 range to the maximum range commensurate with acquisition
18 and accurate fixing of the position of the target either
19 with its own weapons or through direction and control of
20 other ASW weapon carriers;

21 c. Have a full capability to detect, by either
22 active or passive means, and to destroy aircraft and air
23 weapons at low altitude;

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Enclosure 1

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1 d. Have a limited capability to attack surface ships;

2 e. Coordinate direction and control of other ASW
3 search and attack units;

4 f. Insofar as practicable destroy or neutralize
5 weapons fired by enemy submarines.

6 3. The vessel must have all weather sea keeping qualities
7 and be capable of performing its assigned tasks under most
8 weather conditions. It should be capable of making an ocean
9 passage. Its endurance should be at least 3,000 miles at
10 18 knots. It must have facilities for replenishment at sea.
11 The maximum speed for this vessel should be 24 knots under average
12 hull conditions. A higher speed is desirable but only if it can
13 be obtained without increasing the size, or displacement,
14 personnel requirements and cost of the ship. It must have a
15 high degree of maneuverability at all operational speeds.

16 4. The vessel must be inexpensive to build and to maintain
17 consistent with the capabilities required. The machinery,
18 armament, and equipment should be reasonably simple to operate and
19 maintain. NBC protection should be provided to the maximum
20 extent possible. Provisions should be made for the installation
21 of data handling equipment.

22 5. So that the vessel can be adapted to various specific
23 secondary tasks according to the area of operation, its design
24 should permit the installation of differing armament systems. In
25 addition, the design of this escort vessel should make use of, to
26 the maximum extent possible, fittings and equipment used in the
27 ASW Ocean Escort Vessel.

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Enclosure 1

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1 MISCELLANEOUS

2 6. The great majority of ships of NATO navies assigned at
3 this time to the roles of coastal escort are obsolescent and are
4 incapable of dealing with any but slow speed submarines. Therefore,
5 they require replacement by ships equipped to fight the modern
6 submarine. The vessel designed to meet this military requirement
7 stated herein should be greatly superior in performance to all
8 PGs now in operational service and to all older classes of DEs.
9 There may be a need within NATO for over 100 ships of this type.
10 The NATO Military Authorities have established a NATO Basic Military
11 Requirement for an ASW Ocean Escort Vessel (NBMR-20).

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Enclosure 1

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APPENDIX "A"

NATIONAL COMMENTS NOT INCORPORATED IN THE NBMR FOR A SHORT RANGE ASW ESCORT VESSEL (ASAP)

1 ITALY

2 The Italian Authorities concur, in principle, with the
3 statement contained in the NBMR. They feel however that:

4 to avoid insuperable problems of weight and space all of
5 the armament and equipment, including that for ASW, should be
6 interchangeable;

7 the short-range vessel should be much more economical to
8 build and to maintain than the ASW Ocean Escort, so it could
9 be used for various auxiliary tasks, i.e., coastal convoy escort,
10 defense of Assembly Anchorages, ASW operations in narrow waters.

11 NETHERLANDS

12 The operational characteristics for the short range ASW
13 escort vessel should be built up of established NBMRs and
14 existing operational characteristics of certain components.

15 In the design there should be certain reserves in weight
16 and space (about ten percent of the weight) for retrofitting of
17 more modern equipment at a later date..

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Appendix "A" to
Enclosure 1.

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