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NORTH ATLANTIC MILITARY COMMITTEE  
COMITE MILITAIRE DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD

IMS Control N° ... 0577 ...

Standing Group

Groupe Permanent

SGWM-26-66

28 April 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR THE STANDING GROUP

SUBJECT: Report of the Attendance at the 18th Meeting of the Permanent Board of Ocean Shipping (PBOS)

Reference: a. STAND 7657, 12 Apr 66 - 001/SP

1. In response to reference a, the following officers from the International Planning Staff (IPS) attended as observers the 18th Meeting of PBOS held at the US Department of State from 18 - 21 April, 1966:

- Captain C.S. WALLINE, USN; Division B
- Colonel P. DARJES, GAF; Division C
- Captain A.W. CHANDLER, USN; Division C

A copy of the adopted agenda is being distributed separately.

2. You will note that the majority of the items were purely civilian in nature, and while often interesting, the Standing Group (SGN) has little concern with them. A summary of our action on those items of SGN interest follows:

Item 8(d): Provision of NATO Naval Escorts (PBOS/18/20)

Captain DYE (United States) said that it would be a mistake to place much emphasis on this one point, since a lack of naval escorts is only one of several limiting factors to be considered.

Captain DELAHOUSSE (SACLANT) agreed that in certain respects

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PBOS/18/20 had lost its timeliness since certain decisions regarding the first six months after nuclear exchange had been agreed on in the Military Committee (MC) and a paper outlining these decisions will be submitted to the national delegations by SACLANT. A meeting to discuss these decisions will be held in London in June 1966 by SACLANT together with SACEUR and CINCHAN. He invited participation by a representative of PBOS.

Mr. O'NEILL (United Kingdom) said that a representative would be available to attend this meeting.

Captain DYE (United States) commented that this whole problem should be discussed again after the June 1966 meeting and that it might well be considered desirable to include it as an item on the agenda for the 19th PBOS Meeting.

Item 12: Future Exercises

Inter alia, the point was raised that, since military exercises such as FALLEX-64 and 66 always cover the early time frame, it was difficult to correspondingly play a civilian exercise of the Defense Shipping Executive Board (DSEB), since that body does not become operational until about D+120 days.

The following SGN comment was offered:

Captain WALLINE (Standing Group), whilst appreciating the desirability of a D+120 time setting for DSEB exercises, stated that military exercises would always have to be held in early time frames. The difficulties of adjustment were considerable, he believed, and might even prove to be insoluble.

The final report contains the following summary of the discussion on this part of the subject:

It was noted that, whereas the DSEB in full operation

can only be envisaged in a late time setting, military exercises require early time frames. There is no simple answer to the problem of bringing this gap so as to permit of combined exercises covering both military needs and Defense Shipping Authority (DSA) operations.

Item 13: Revision of the NATO Ocean Clearance Policy (MC 12/6)

At the request of the Chairman, Captain WALLINE read the agreed SGN statement on this subject (Enclosure 1 to SGWM-23-66 dated 18 April 66). It will be noted that corrections to the agreed statement had to be made on the spot, since it became apparent that there was a misunderstanding between the IPS and SACLANT on whether the pertinent action had been taken, or was to be taken. This had no substantive effect.

The minutes of the meeting contain the following entry on this item:

Captain WALLINE (Standing Group) reported that SACEUR has recommended certain changes in NATO ocean clearance policy which have been circulated to Ministers of Defense (MODs). These proposed changes are to be tested in FALLEX-66. It may well be necessary to revise MC 12/6 but this will not be done after all of these lessons to be learned from FALLEX-66 are evaluated.

Commander GREET (SACLANT) said that the main changes to MC 12/6 will come about as a result of lessons learned from the 1964 shipping plot. The military authorities, with PBOS co-operation, have carried out eight studies which will be reviewed by a working group scheduled to meet in London in June 1966 at which time firm proposals for change will be agreed upon if changes are seen to be necessary.

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Item 14: Procedure for the Submission of Military Requirements for Ocean Shipping in Time of War

Colonel DARJES (Standing Group) read the agreed SGN statement on this subject (Enclosure 1 to SGWM-20-66 dated 14 Apr 66). This was concurred by the Board.

3. As the meeting terminated, Captain WALLINE, speaking for the Standing Group and for the Representatives of the NATO Military Staffs present, conveyed the SGN's appreciation for being invited to the PBOS meeting, mentioning the advantages of the exchange of information between the NATO Civilian Agencies and the Military Higher Direction.



ERNST FERBER  
Major General, German Army  
Director