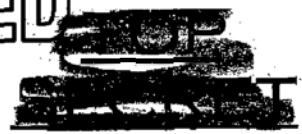


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DECLASSIFIED-PUBLIC DISCLOSURE IMSM-0431-99 DECLASSIFIE-MISE EN LECTURE PUBLIQUE

MESSAGE

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FROM: SGREP PARIS FRANCE
TO : SGN WASH DC
INFO: SACLANT-NORFOLK VAREGRADED
NR LOSTAN 2267

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DOCUMENT RECLASSIFICATION MEMO #10
Per Authority 131045Z NOV 57
By JER Date 2/1/68

370.24

IMS Control No 0560 Subject is Council Meeting with SACLANT.

1. On 12 November Council met with SACLANT to discuss fall exercises and minimum forces study.
2. In presentation on exercises, SACLANT outlined the background, the scope and the lessons learned. He also took the opportunity to emphasize the importance of his Infrastructure Projects to Naval operations in Eastern Atlantic and the need to have nationally issued instructions to merchant shipping for use in emergency. In response to question on the latter point he expressed agreement with principle of having such instructions included in alert measures.
3. Discussion of minimum forces study emphasized that SACLANT study was developed in close coordination with SAGEUR and that it was based upon the need to defend all of NATO without priority between the European, Atlantic or North American areas. Necessity of Infrastructure Projects was again stressed.
4. Main points highlighted by SACLANT were that requirements were prepared on an austere basis and that increased operating costs or requirements were estimated to be between 10 and 20%. He said he was unable to state the capital costs involved. He stressed that Naval forces were less susceptible to atomic attack than were corresponding shore establishments. This latter point, coupled with stated need for Infrastructure, provided basis for main questions by Council. In support of both theses, SACLANT stated that his infrastructure requirements were minimal, their sites had been carefully chosen and that regardless of mobil logistic support forces, bases were needed. Other questions were on technical developments, principally nuclear propulsion for ships.

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5. The size of SACLANT requirement was not rpt not discussed except in the context of whether the barrier concept would require more forces, SACLANT reply expressed hope to provide effective barrier using forces listed in study.

6. Council welcomed opportunity to hear SACLANT and Chairman expressed hope for more frequent visits in the future.

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