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2nd April, 1964.

NOLP/PAG/BA

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY GENERAL, NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

(For attn. Assistant Secretary General, Production and Logistics)

SUBJECT: NATO Comparative Trials

Reference (a) FL/LEW(59) 94  
(b) STANL-447

1. In connection with reference (a) above, the Standing Group Liaison Officer has been requested by the Standing Group to forward to you the following information:

1. The Standing Group, having examined the MAS report on NATO comparative trials and the comments by NATO countries as well as those of the International Staff on this report, concludes that owing to disagreement between countries and to the difficulties of organizing trials, it is not possible to establish a comprehensive system of NATO comparative trials of equipment.
2. When a NATO comparative trials of equipment is considered to be vital by any NATO country, authority or agency, including the MAS, acting on its own initiative, the case for holding the trial should be submitted to the Standing Group through the MAS.
3. The Standing Group recommends that groups of countries should carry out cooperative trials of equipment on a regional basis and considers that, when so conducted, the trials would assist the International Staff in implementing the European correlated production program. The groups of countries conducting regional trials should keep MAS and the International Staff informed.
4. It is considered that the tables of test data prepared by MAS, would not provide the International Staff with recommendations as to a NATO choice of equipment. They would, however, assist non-producer countries in making their own choice of equipment.

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5. Demonstrations of equipment provide an opportunity for comparison and an exchange of information. They would be of value to non-producer countries in selecting equipment for their own use. The Standing Group recommends that countries holding demonstrations of equipment should invite other interested SAEC countries to exhibit similar equipment and to send observers. The SAC should be kept informed."

2. Instructions in accordance with paragraph 1 above have been issued to the SAS London.

3. The Standing Group final report mentioned in reference (b) was despatched to the Standing Group Liaison Office on 31st March as 2-29/12 (final).

For SAC, SACI, I  
2-12, General  
2-12, Luchman