

SECRET - NATOCOPY NO. 1

NORTH ATLANTIC MILITARY COMMITTEE

1334

COMITE MILITAIRE DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD

Standing Group

Groupe Permanent

SGM-462-56

27 June 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER EUROPE

SUBJECT: Common Infrastructure Financing

References: a. M.C. 32/7 (FINAL), 8 June 1956  
b. STAND 1539, 8 June 1956  
c. SHAPE AG 6100/P-205/56 LOG, 17 May 1956  
d. C-M(53)18, 6 Mar 1953

1. In both references a and b the Military Representatives Committee called to the attention of the Council the military requirement for certain items of mobile accommodation at NATO tactical airfields. The Council has been requested to consider the question of the eligibility of these items for financing as common infrastructure, and an early decision was requested in order to prevent possible delay in implementation of this important aspect of the dispersal policy. References a and b are thus considered responsive to your request contained in reference c.

2. The Standing Group/Military Representatives Committee have, as a matter of policy, deliberately refrained from comment or recommendation on how these items should be financed. In this we are guided by reference d which specifically limits the responsibility of the NATO military authorities in considering infrastructure to review of the military necessity and adequacy of the proposals, and estimates of the degree of common use. Decision on the method of financing is reserved to the Council. Hence the purpose of study mentioned in paragraph 2, reference c, is not clear to the Standing Group. Standing Group experience has proven that it is advantageous to NATO Military Authorities to stay out of financing problems as much as possible.

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SGM-462-56

- 1 -

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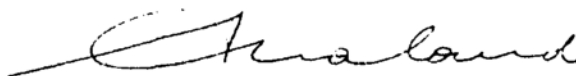
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3. Your comment in paragraph 3 c, reference c, on mobile accommodation for war headquarters is also noted with interest, particularly in the light of the discussion of future war headquarters projects at the Military Committee meeting in Paris in April 1956. The Standing Group would appreciate an indication of your thinking on this subject in more detail. If your proposals affect the scope of the war headquarters projects now under construction, the matter is of considerable urgency.

FOR THE STANDING GROUP:



A. LALANDE  
Colonel, French Army  
Deputy Secretary