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NORTH ATLANTIC MILITARY COMMITTEE

COMITE MILITAIRE DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD

Standing Group

Groupe Permanent

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Per Authority IMSM-431-99

By JACOUBE Date 6-12-99

SGM-279-57

26 April 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Supreme Allied Commander Europe
Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic
Allied Commander-in-Chief Channel
Allied Maritime Air Commander-in-Chief Channel

SUBJECT: Minimum Forces Studies

Reference: SGM-105-57

1. In compliance with action by the North Atlantic Council on 13 April 1957, SACEUR is instructed to prepare specific replies to points (a) and (b) of paragraph 3 of the Annex to C-M(57)41, taking into account the military aspects of (c) and in the light of general policy of the Alliance as approved by the Council. In framing these replies, SACEUR should take into account Professor Hallstein's expose (C-M(57)46) and any other questions submitted to him by or through the Council.

2. General Norstad's replies will be submitted simultaneously to the Council and to the Standing Group in order that the Council may commence studying it without delay. The Council's constitutional military advisers will supply their comments to the Council at the earliest possible moment.

3. The Standing Group understands that SACEUR's replies to the Council Directive will be contained in his minimum forces study called for in reference, and that due to these new conditions, this study will be delayed some three or four months.

4. SACLANT, CINCHAN and CINCMAIRCHAN will continue to prepare their minimum forces studies as required by reference. But in order that these studies may take fully into account the same considerations that now apply to SACEUR's study, SACLANT, CINCHAN and CINCMAIRCHAN are invited to establish direct liaison with SACEUR for this purpose.

5. The Standing Group considers that all these studies should:

- a. Define Commanders' basic missions and tasks.
- b. Define the assumptions from which the force requirements are generated.
- c. Contain force requirements either by country or, if not possible, by area command.

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6. In view of the new circumstances, SACLANT, CINCHAN and CINCMAIRCHAN are requested to submit their minimum forces studies to the Standing Group not later than 1 September 1957. SACEUR is requested to submit his study, both to the Council and to the Standing Group by the same date.

7. Such parts of SGM-105-57 which conflict with this document are amended accordingly. STAND 1917 is hereby cancelled.

FOR THE STANDING GROUP:

W. E. Ablitt
W. E. ABLITT
Lt Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps
Assistant Secretary

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