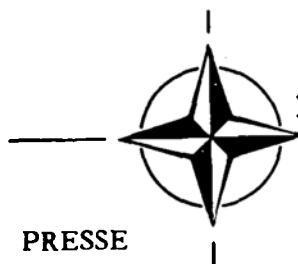


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Rome, 23rd september, 1966

NUCLEAR PLANNING GROUP OF DEFENCE MINISTERS

The Nuclear Planning Group of Defence Ministers issued the following communiqué after their meeting in Rome, September 23rd :

"The Defense Ministers of Nuclear Planning Working Group today devoted their fourth meeting to consideration of modifications in organization and of procedures and guidelines to bring about more effective allied participation in nuclear planning. As a result of today's discussions, the Ministers recommended to the Special Committee a framework of permanent arrangements for Nuclear Planning in NATO. It is hoped that the Special Committee will consider these recommendations before the North Atlantic Council Ministerial meeting in December and decide on further action. Defense Ministers in attendance were Kai Uwe von Hassel, Germany; Roberto Tremelloni, Italy; Ahmet Topaloglu, Turkey; Denis Healey, United Kingdom; and Robert S. McNamara, United States, who served as Chairman. Mr. Manlio Brosio, Secretary General of NATO, also attended. Previous meetings of the Nuclear Planning Working Group have dealt with various aspects of planning associated with strategic nuclear forces, tactical nuclear forces, as well as organizational questions".