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Paris, 31st May, 1967

Appointment of Vice Admiral Ephraim P. Holmes to succeed
Admiral Moorer as Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic

1. The Defence Planning Committee of the North Atlantic Council today appointed Vice Admiral Ephraim P. Holmes, United States Navy, as Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, to succeed Admiral Thomas H. Moorer. The Committee has been informed of the contents of a letter from the President of the United States of America to the Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and Chairman of the Permanent Council, in which the President asked the member governments to agree to release Admiral Moorer.

2. The Committee agreed with great regret to release Admiral Moorer from his assignment as Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic. They expressed to Admiral Moorer, in the name of the Governments represented on the Committee, lasting gratitude for the distinguished service rendered by him.

3. The Committee requested the President of the United States of America to nominate an officer of the United States Navy for appointment by the Committee as Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, to succeed Admiral Moorer. In response to this request, the President of the United States informed the Committee of his nomination of Vice Admiral Holmes for consideration by the Committee as successor to Admiral Moorer. Vice Admiral Holmes is now serving as Director, Navy Programme Planning, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations.

4. At its meeting today, the Committee adopted a resolution appointing Vice Admiral Holmes as Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, as successor to Admiral Moorer with the same powers and functions. The appointment is to become effective on the seventeenth day of June 1967.