

CONSEIL DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD
NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

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m. Patry
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COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND CULTURAL RELATIONS

NATO NEWSREEL FOR TROOPS

Note by the Director of Information

On 19th December 1955, a questionnaire (Annex A) was sent to national troop information authorities, requesting information on troop newsreels and magazines and enquiring whether material could be supplied to NATO for an international newsreel.

2. Production and provision of materials. The answers to the questionnaire indicated:

- (a) that Belgium, Greece, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States, are producing and distributing a newsreel or magazine to their armed forces, and the competent authorities of these countries stated they would supply material for a NATO international newsreel;
- (b) Canada and France were not at that time producing newsreels as such, but were producing information films for their armed forces. The competent authorities of both countries promised assistance to NATO.

3. Furthermore, it is known that Germany produces an official newsreel, the "Deutschlandspiegel", which contains material which would be useful for the "Atlantic Review".

4. Distribution. The countries already producing newsreels naturally have the mechanics for distribution. Canada, France and Germany also have very good distribution arrangements already in operation for instructional and information films for the armed forces.

5. The material collected for an "Atlantic Review" might well be used, if correctly edited and presented, by European and North American television stations. This potential outlet will be the subject of a second paper, should the Committee decide to proceed with the present project.

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6. In addition to the armed services showings, i.e. within the scope of current affairs and educational programmes, there is every chance of an international newsreel, such as "Atlantic Review", being shown theatrically with feature films in the cinemas in service camps, barracks and ships.

7. Current Costs of Production. Annex C is a financial summary of four variations, assessing centralised production and distribution by the NATO Information Service. These figures include a 25% increase in Paris production costs since 1955.

8. Next Steps. On 24th February, 1958, the Committee on Information and Cultural Relations agreed that the overall picture of co-operation and assistance which NATO could count on, as indicated by the replies to the questionnaire and as summarised in paragraph 2 above, should be re-affirmed by the national authorities concerned (see Annex B). On the other hand, it does not seem that the questionnaire (Annex A) should necessarily be resubmitted at this time.

(Signed) J.B. PHILLIPS

Palais de Chaillot,
Paris, XVIIe.

QUESTIONNAIRE SUBMITTED IN DECEMBER 1955

1. Do you have a regular newsreel or film magazine devoted to troop information? If so, at what intervals is it distributed? Is the finished film distributed in 16mm. or 35mm. and how many copies of each?
2. Have you facilities for filming on 35mm. film, events relating to your armed forces? If so, please specify whether this is done usually by cameramen of the armed services, by government cameramen or by cameramen from commercial newsreel companies.
3. If these events are covered by commercial companies, do these companies make available to the armed forces a copy of the footage, and do they give the armed forces the free use of the footage in military or government films for non-commercial distribution?
4. Have you any idea how many stories relating to your armed forces were shot in the past 12 months?
5. Do you think that you could obtain, once every two months at a minimum, a 35mm. fine grain or negative of an interesting event relating to your armed forces, on which NATO might have the rights for non-commercial exploitation?

LIST OF TROOP INFORMATION AUTHORITIES CONTACTED IN DECEMBER 1955

BELGIUM

Ministère de la Defense Nationale,
Direction de l'Adjutant Général,
Direction Supérieure des Services Speciaux,
Caserne Prince Baudouin,
Place Dailly,
Bruxelles.

(Baron van den Branden de Reeth,
Colonel, Directeur Supérieur des Service Speciaux.)

CANADA

Department of National Defence,
Ottawa.

(Mr. Harry R. Low,
Director, Bureau of Current Affairs.)

DENMARK

Forsvarets Velfærdstjeneste,
Folk og Vaern,
Vester Voldgade 117,
København V.

(Mr. Victor Gram)

FRANCE

Ministère de la Défense Nationale et des Forces Armées,
(Service d'Action Psychologique d'Information,
et Cinématographique des Armées,
14, Rue St. Dominique,
Paris 7.

(Le Capitaine de Vaisseau Boutron,
Chef du Service d'Information de la Défense
Nationale et des Forces Armées.)

GERMANY

Bundesministerium für Verteidigung,
Angelanderstrasse 105,
Bonn.

(Herr Klaus Schubert)

GREECE

National Defence General Staff,
Athens.

(Lt. Col. Koukaliotis George,
Director, P.I. Service)

ITALY

Ministero Della Difesa,
Rome.

(Captain Freg. G. Sleiter)

LUXEMBOURG

Etat-Major de l'Armée,
Luxembourg.

(Capitaine R.N. Winter)

NETHERLANDS

Koninklijke Landmacht,
Legervoortlichtingsdienst,
Noordeinde 43,

(Major J.G. Raatgever, R.N.A.)

NORWAY

Det. Kgl. Norske Flyvæpen,
Overkommandoen,
Myntgt. 2.
Oslo.

(Chief Inspector of Education,
Mr. Dagfinn Tveito)

PORTUGAL

Presidencia do Conselho,
Secretariado Geral da Defesa Nacional,

Le Chef du 2ème Bureau,
Duarte de Almeida Carvalho.

(Capitão de Mar E. Guerra)

TURKEY

Temsil Bürosu,
M.M.V.,
Ankara
Turkey.

(Col. Nusret Bulca,
Temsil Bürosu Başkanı,
M.M.V.)

UNITED KINGDOM

Director of Army Education,
The War Office,
Standmore,
Middlesex.

(Ref: 32/Films GP/96(1E4), 12/1/56.

UNITED STATES

Deputy Director,
Department of Defense,
Officer of Armed Forces,
Information and Education,
Washington, 25,
D.C.,
USA.

(Colonel J.W. Dobson)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The following is a financial summary of four variations assuming centralised production and distribution by the Information Service. These figures include a 25% increase in Paris production costs since 1955.

	<u>Per Quarter</u>	<u>Per Annum</u>
Basic NATO work in one language	1,562,500	6,250,000
NEWSREEL in 10 languages with 10 16mm. prints per country (10 countries only)	3,125,000	12,500,000
NEWSREEL in 10 languages with 10 16mm. prints per country (all 15 countries)	3,437,500	13,750,000
NEWSREEL in 5 languages with 10 16mm. prints per country (5 countries only)	2,300,000	7,360,000