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COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND CULTURAL RELATIONS

QUARTERLY REVIEW TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE NETHERLANDS

Note by the Director of Information

The booklet "Five Years of NATO" published by General H.J. Kruls in co-operation with the Dutch association "Our Army" was so well received that he intends to renew this initiative on a permanent basis. He therefore proposes issuing in the same manner a quarterly review to be known as "Fifteen Nations". The first number, which should appear this Autumn, would deal with transport, the second, on sale early in 1956, with infrastructure and public works.

2. The review is to be financed by the sale of advertising space. NATO, however, exercises no control of any kind over the articles to be published. This in itself makes it impossible for NATO to accept the official sponsorship of General Kruls' publication. Nevertheless, his initiative deserves to be encouraged and to receive indirect support insofar as the review contributes to the dissemination of unbiased information on the aims and activities of NATO.

3. This support might comprise:

- (a) technical advice and suggestions on the form and substance of the articles to appear in "Fifteen Nations". It should be noted that several of the articles in "Five Years of NATO" were written by members of the International Staff and by civilian and military personalities in close touch with NATO;
- (b) assisting publicity agents in search of clients for advertising space in the review to procure the list of firms having obtained contracts for NATO works, on the understanding that these agents can in no circumstances claim to be acting on behalf of NATO in any capacity whatsoever, or seek to exert pressure of any kind by suggestions that "Fifteen Nations" is an official NATO organ.

4. Since contracts and orders are placed by governments, it would be for national delegations to direct publicity agents to the government departments likely to help them find prospective advertisers. In view of the interest of General Kruls' review from the standpoint of general information on NATO, it would be

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desirable for the members of the Committee on Information and Cultural Relations to be notified of all details of the scheme to enable them to reply to any questions put to them in this connection.

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