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NATO CONFIDENTIAL
DOCUMENT
AC/101-D/2(Revised)

WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE INTERNATIONAL CO-ORDINATION
OF SUPPLIES IN WARTIME

Note by the Secretary

Delegations will find attached herewith a draft resolution of the Council, revised in accordance with the decisions taken at the last meeting of the Working Group.

2. They are reminded that following discussion it was agreed that some of the points raised should be the subject of comments in a report by the Working Group to the Council. As the work now stands, these points are as follows:

- The existence of a Central Supplies Agency with a bird's eye view of the position of both countries and commodities as a whole should ensure effective co-ordination of the national import programmes.
- Under "Functions", paragraph 2 provides for a review of the import programmes by all the bodies concerned. If this review shows that nothing is holding up the import programmes from the point of view of shipping availabilities, they can then be taken as a basis for drawing up the transport programmes to be implemented by the Defence Shipping Authority in conjunction with the governments concerned.
- Paragraph 5 under this same heading deals with the rôle of the agency when changes have to be made to the import programmes:
 - (a) If time allows (sub-paragraphs (a) and (b)) after the exchange of information referred to in these sub-paragraphs, a course of action broadly similar to that envisaged for paragraphs 2 to 4 would presumably be resorted to. It seems unlikely, however, that the time available will be sufficient for exactly the same procedure to be followed and it is still too early to make any more definite arrangements.
 - (b) When transport plans have to be changed as a matter of urgency (paragraph 5(c)), action by the Central Supplies Agency should ensure that any modification introduced by the Defence Shipping Authority will as far as possible be compatible with the position emerging from the status of resources and requirements.

3. This document will be examined by the Working Group at its next meeting which has been arranged for 23rd May at 3.30 p.m.

(Signed) H. VOIGT

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NATO CONFIDENTIAL

DRAFT RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL ON THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF A CENTRAL SUPPLIES AGENCY

I. The Council recognises the need for a Central Supplies Agency under the Supreme Allied Authority responsible for the conduct of the war.

II. It is not possible at the present time to define in detail all the functions which this Agency might be called upon to perform in wartime or the procedures to be employed in its relations with governments and other allied agencies. Taking into account the possibility of participation of non-NATO powers in the common defence effort and of the need to co-operate with certain neutral governments, as well as of other prevailing circumstances, any such organization may have to be reviewed at the outbreak of war.

III. The Council, however, considers it advisable to define forthwith the main functions of this Agency and the criteria governing its composition as set out below:

FUNCTIONS

The Central Supply Agency will, in particular, fulfill the following functions:

1. To advise and formulate suggestions intended to assist the supreme authority in the elaboration of guidance for the preparation of the import programmes of the member countries of the alliance.

2. In consultation with the appropriate national authorities, the Specialised Commodity Boards, the military authorities and the transport agencies, to review the import programmes, in order to co-ordinate them and to ascertain that they comply with the general guidance issued by the supreme authority.

3. Should it prove impossible to implement in full the civil and military programmes submitted, to examine possible changes of civil programmes in consultation with the appropriate national authorities and the Specialised Commodity Boards, and to attempt to obtain the agreement of interested countries to the programme modifications proposed.

4. To report to the supreme authority, to submit proposals and to request its arbitration in the case of disagreements, such as:

(a) in the event of one or several governments having refused to agree to the suggested modifications and proposed order of priority;

(b) in the event of it proving impossible, even after the introduction of the modifications referred to above, to carry out civilian programmes simultaneously with military programmes.

5. (a) To receive information from the Defence Shipping Authority of any major unforeseen alteration in transport capabilities which might affect implementation of import programmes;

also to obtain information on circumstances likely to affect port capacities.

(b) To inform the Defence Shipping Authority about changes in the supply situation which might affect the planning of transport movement.

(c) To give advice to the Defence Shipping Authority as to the supply and requirements situation when transport plans have to be changed as a matter of urgency.

COMPOSITION

1. The Central Supplies Agency shall be composed of a small number of persons chosen by the Council by reason of their qualifications in the field of supply.

2. It shall work in co-operation with the Commodity Boards, the agencies responsible for shipping and overland transport and the appropriate NATO military authorities who will be represented at the Central Supplies Agency.

3. The Central Supplies Agency will be authorised to call in any other officials particularly qualified to deal with specific questions.

4. The various countries concerned shall each have a representative who shall be kept informed of all the Agency's activities and shall be entitled to put forward their views.

The Agency shall work in accordance with the general guidance issued by a committee composed of a representative of each of the countries concerned. The Agency shall keep these representatives informed of all its activities.

IV. The Senior Civil Emergency Planning Committee is invited to keep this matter under study and to propose any further action it may deem useful.

1. The Central Supplies Committee shall include a representative from each member country of the Alliance. It shall elect its own Chairman.

2. In order to facilitate its work the Committee shall be entitled to delegate some of its duties to an executive secretariat who, under the authority of the Chairman, will include a small number of persons chosen by the Council by reason of their qualifications in the field of supply.

3. It shall work in co-operation with the Commodity Boards, the agencies responsible for shipping and overland transport and the appropriate NATO military authorities who will be represented at the Central Supplies Committee.