



ORGANISATION DU TRAITÉ DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD  
NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

24

NATO UNCLASSIFIED  
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NATO SECRET

PERSONAL

PO/55/754

To: All Permanent Representatives  
From: Secretary General.

In my note of the 9th September 1955\*, I circulated to Permanent Representatives a message from the Greek Minister of Defence to the Supreme Allied Commander Europe. I attach hereto a copy of the Supreme Allied Commander's reply.

(Signed) ISMAY

13th September, 1955

\* PO/55/746

NATO SECRET

C O P YNATO SECRET

TO: MOD GREECE

12 SEP 55

NATO MESSAGE

FOR MINISTER KANELLOPOULOS FROM GENERAL GRUENTHER

Your message informing me of the Greek Government's decision not to participate in certain exercises scheduled for September, 1955, was delivered to me on 9 September. In this message you suggested either the cancellation of these exercises or their modification to take into account the non-participation of the Greek Forces.

While I understand the reasons which have caused your government to reach these decisions, I feel obliged to mention the very serious complications which will result therefrom for my command, of which the Greek Forces constitute such an important and distinguished element. However, after consultation with my subordinate commanders, I find it most undesirable to cancel exercises which involve many NATO countries, which have been under preparation for a long while, and which have already caused appreciable financial outlays. Therefore, and with regret, I have given instructions that these exercises be modified so that they be held without the benefit of Greek participation. Needless to say, an important part of their significance and value will thus be lost.

In the interest of Allied Command Europe, which plays such an essential role in assuring the peace in the equal interest of all NATO countries, I wish to express my earnest hope to you that the Greek Forces will soon resume their full and essentially important participation in the NATO military effort.

A decision on the part of the Greek Government to resume its full part in the exercises planned for September would, of course, represent a most welcome contribution which Greece could make at this time to the NATO Organization as a whole and to Allied Command Europe in particular.

With warm regard.

NATO SECRET