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COMMITTEE ON THE ANNUAL REVIEW

SCREENING IN THE ANNUAL REVIEW

Note by the Secretariat

In the most general sense the screening process in the Annual Review should encompass a critical analysis of all aspects - military, economic, financial, production and political - of the defence plans of countries as reflected primarily in the replies to the questionnaire and of the bases on which the replies are prepared. Such screening would include review of replies to ensure that they have been calculated on a common set of assumptions; that agreed definitions and classifications have been followed; that the replies are internally consistent; and analysis of national plans in search of areas where economies can be recommended.

2. Under general supervision provided by the Committee on the Annual Review, the initial work incident to screening should be undertaken by the international staff, augmented as necessary for this purpose, during the preliminary analysis of country replies. In terms of the tables agreed for the questionnaire, it would include, inter alia, the following:

- (a) Force tables. Analysis of tables 1 and 2 and comparison of replies with 1952 Lisbon goals, MRC 12 and other documents setting forth military goals and approved standards of readiness, examination of unit establishment for comparability; examination of replies on other national forces. This process to be performed by a Working Group comprising military personnel provided by the Standing Group and the military representatives Committee, and also military Budget experts to be recruited separately.
- (b) Cost factors. Analysis of tables 4-11, and especially of table 10, in terms of possible economies or shortages. This process to be initially performed by costing and military budget experts, subject to review on matters requiring military advice by the team of the Standing Group Liaison Officer.
- (c) Production tables. Analysis of tables 12-15 in terms of equipment deficiencies for NATO forces and the

relationship of equipment requirements to resources in the form of production and end-item aid. This process to be performed by production staff, assisted by statistics and economics staff and military team, supplemented by certain additional experts in the equipment planning field.

3. In addition to the personnel currently requested in the establishment for the international staff and the team which will be furnished by the Standing Group and the Military Representative Committee in Washington, it is envisaged that the Secretariat would need to be augmented for this purpose by:

- two to three experts in costing;
- six to seven military budget experts;
- possibly one to two experts in the equipment planning field;
- three to four experts in defence finance if the finance section is not up to establishment at the time of the Annual Review.

4. These persons would be loaned to the international staff for the period of the Annual Review to function as members of the staff and not as national representatives. They should have full security clearance from their national governments and be available for duty in Paris not later than 25th August 1952.

5. The product of the analysis described above, having been prepared by the international staff, would be made available for comment and review to such national delegations teams as are agreed for the stage of country interviews.

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