

## NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL DEPUTIES

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NATO INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION MEETING  
12th - 14th April, 1951  
DRAFT PRESS RELEASE

Proposal by the United States Delegation and the  
NATO Information Service.

The Information Service of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization today concluded a three-day conference with representatives of national information services of the twelve NAT nations.

The conference dealt with the practical problems of developing a wider dissemination of factual information regarding the objectives of the North Atlantic Treaty and the activities of NATO.

The series of meetings was opened on Thursday by Ambassador Charles M. Spofford, Chairman of the North Atlantic Council Deputies. He stressed the vital importance to NATO of a full understanding among the peoples of NAT countries of their common effort.

In a statement sent to the conference, General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander, SARP, said that the real foundation of the free coalition of the North Atlantic Nations "must be facts and understanding".

"Two years ago," he said, "the governments of twelve free nations bound themselves together in a great alliance dedicated to the purpose of providing for their common security and thereby assuring both freedom and peace. Success depends upon unity; among free men unity depends, first of all upon full and free information.

"Many pitfalls and dangers attend us. Perhaps the most deadly is the assumption by some that this great work can be brought to fruition by edict. They seem to believe that it is sufficient for governments to make commitments and for statesmen to make ringing pronouncements, and all will be well. This is false. Our coalition will exist and prosper in direct proportion to the confidence and support given it by the free peoples of our several countries. This, in turn, depends wholly upon the effectiveness and honesty of the information that reaches them."