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30 November 1949

Pages 1 - 5, incl.

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NOTE BY THE SECRETARY

to the

NORTH ATLANTIC DEFENSE COMMITTEE

on

PROPOSAL BY THE ITALIAN DELEGATE TO DEFENSE COMMITTEE TO AMEND
THE DIRECTIVE FROM THE DEFENSE COMMITTEE TO
THE MILITARY COMMITTEE

Reference: D.C. 1/2

The enclosed report by the Standing Group is circulated for consideration by the North Atlantic Defense Committee.

C. H. DONNELLY
Colonel, USA
Secretary

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E N C L O S U R E

REPORT

on

PROPOSAL BY THE ITALIAN DELEGATE TO DEFENSE COMMITTEE
TO AMEND THE DIRECTIVE FROM THE DEFENSE COMMITTEE
TO THE MILITARY COMMITTEE

D.C. 1/2 (or M.C. 1), Paragraph 18/

1. D.C. 1/2 (Directive to the Military Committee) states as follows:

"18. Intra-Regional Defense Coordination

It is recognized that there are problems which are clearly common to the defense of the different areas covered by the regional planning groups. Any combination of these Groups may meet together from time to time to insure full coordination and cooperation. In particular, arrangements should be made to provide such meetings among the European Groups."

2. At the meeting of the Defense Committee on 5 October, the Italian delegate proposed to amend paragraph 18 of the Defense Committee Directive to the Military Committee as indicated below:

"It is recognized that there are problems which are clearly common to the defense of the different areas covered by the regional planning groups. Any combination of these groups may meet together from time to time to insure full coordination and cooperation, and particular arrangements should be made to provide such combined meetings among the European groups when requested by any two or more members and to establish permanent liaison between the European Groups."

3. The proposed amendment was referred by the Defense Committee to the Military Committee with instructions that the Military Committee would report back to the Defense Committee at its next meeting (see Appendix hereto).

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4. The Military Committee at its meeting of 6 October referred the Italian proposal to the Standing Group "to work up a proposed solution" (Minutes of the first meeting of the Military Committee).

5. In view of the terms of the existing paragraph 18 (D.C. 1/2) and agreed provisions by which nations not members of a particular Group have the right to participate in discussions affecting their own territory or the use of their own forces (D.C. 1/2, paragraph 15 b), it is felt undesirable that rigid rules should be laid down by the Military Committee regarding the way in which this participation already agreed upon in principle should be effected.

6. Although the term "liaison" is not specifically mentioned, it is considered that the sense of the Terms of Reference to the Regional Planning Groups (D.C. 1/2, paragraph 17 b) is to ensure that normal military liaison exists between Groups. The method of establishing such liaison is a matter for Regional Planning Groups themselves to resolve, and we consider it would be undesirable for rigid directions to be issued by the Military Committee to put this into effect.

7. The Standing Group, therefore, considers that existent directives from the Defense Committee to the Military Committee contain sufficient provisions for coordination, cooperation and liaison between Regional Planning Groups.

RECOMMENDATION

8. In view of the foregoing, it is considered that the proposal of the Italian Delegate is already covered by existing directives. Therefore, it is not considered necessary to recommend any changes in existing directives.

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A P P E N D I X

NORTH ATLANTIC DEFENSE COMMITTEE
COMITE DE DEFENSE DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD

DM-2-49
6 October 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHAIRMAN, NORTH ATLANTIC MILITARY COMMITTEE

Subject: Directive from the Defense Committee.

At their first meeting on 5 October 1949, the Italian Delegation proposed the following amendment to paragraph 18, page 8, M.C. 1:

"We agree in general with the terms of paragraph 18 as it appears before us, but I feel that we need some clarification of certain parts of it. Of course, we understand that the Military Committee is the group which coordinates the activities of the Regional Planning Groups, but the terms of reference of the Military Committee and of these groups must not be too limited.

"At the end of paragraph 18 it says, 'In particular, arrangements should be made to provide such meetings among the European Groups.'

"I should like to submit that coordination is not only a question of meetings. For example, it seems to me that it would be possible to have permanent liaison between these various groups and that it should be possible to convene meetings of such groups upon the request of two or more members. They could function in the same way as does the Defense Committee where a meeting can be called at the request of any of these members.

"For that reason, I should like to submit an amendment to paragraph 18, which would read as follows: 'Intra-regional defense coordination: It is recognized that there are problems which are clearly common to the

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defense of the different areas covered by the Regional Planning Groups. Any combination of these groups may meet together from time to time to insure full coordination and cooperation, and particular arrangements should be made to provide such combined meetings among the European groups when requested by any two or more members and to establish permanent liaison between the European groups.'"

This proposal was referred to the Military Committee with instructions to report back to the Defense Committee at its next meeting.

/s/ C. H. DONNELLY
Colonel, USA
Secretary

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