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 OTAN PARIS ou  
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NATO SECRET  
PO/64/595

To : Permanent Representatives  
 From: Secretary General

WITHDRAWAL OF UNITED KINGDOM INFANTRY  
BATTALION FROM BAOR

References: C-R(64)35, Item IV  
 United Kingdom Permanent Representative's letter  
 of 28th September, 1964

The Council will recall that at its meeting on the 15th July, 1964 the United Kingdom Representative stated that the United Kingdom had to plan to use one infantry battalion from BAOR to relieve the 1st Inniskillings in Cyprus in September of 1964, if the United Kingdom had to continue to contribute an infantry battalion to UNFICYP after that date. In a letter, dated 28th September, to myself with copies to all Permanent Representatives, the United Kingdom Representative recalled this statement and added that it had been found necessary to carry out the plan to which he had referred and that the 1st Battalion The Cheshires would be withdrawn from BAOR to relieve the 1st Inniskillings. A copy of the United Kingdom Permanent Representative's letter is attached for ease of reference.

2. I have now received, from the Standing Group, SACEUR's evaluation of this withdrawal together with the Standing Group's comments, which are as follows:

"(a) SACEUR has now given an evaluation of this withdrawal in the following terms:

"The United Kingdom Authorities have notified SHAPE of the temporary withdrawal of one infantry battalion from BAOR for service with United Nations forces in Cyprus. This withdrawal was effected by 12th October, 1964. The deletion of this unit from 1 (BR) Corps Order of Battle brings the total of land forces withdrawn from 1 (BR) Corps during

1964 to four infantry battalions, one air defence regiment and one infantry brigade HQ. However, it is planned to replace the battalion withdrawn for United Nations service during any period of emergency.

"The cumulative effect of these withdrawals constitutes a considerable weakening of our forces in a critical sector. It is regretted that such action has been found necessary. Further withdrawals of this nature may make it necessary to reconsider the mission of 1 (BR) Corps.

- "(b) The Standing Group have considered this withdrawal and, while appreciating the circumstances which have caused this redeployment, agree with the evaluation made by SACEUR."

(Signed) Manlio BROSIO

United Kingdom Delegation  
to NATO

28th September, 1964

My dear Secretary General,

In a statement in the North Atlantic Council on 15th July, I said that the United Kingdom must now plan to use one Infantry Battalion from BAOR to relieve the 1st Inniskillings in Cyprus in September 1964, if we had to continue to contribute an Infantry Battalion to UNFICYP after that date.

The Security Council has now extended the United Nations Mandate in Cyprus and, in accordance with Resolution C-M(55)82(Final) adopted by the North Atlantic Council on 5th October, 1955, I am instructed to inform you that in making arrangements for the continuation of our contribution to the United Nations Peace Force it will now be necessary for us to carry out this plan. The 1st Battalion The Cheshires will be withdrawn from BAOR over the period of the next two weeks to relieve the 1st Inniskillings, whose emergency tour in Cyprus will be completed by then. The Inniskillings will return to the United Kingdom where they will again be assigned to the Allied Command Europe Mobile Force. The United Kingdom has no Infantry Battalions available elsewhere to replace The Cheshires for the time being, but we shall hope to provide replacements as soon as circumstances permit. Meanwhile, we should be able to replace the BAOR Battalion from the United Kingdom in an emergency.

The NATO Military Authorities have been informed.

I am sending a copy of this letter to each Permanent Representative and to the Standing Group Representative.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Evelyn SHUCKBURGH

Signor Manlio Brosio,  
Secretary General,  
NATO.