

HISCA
967

NATO SECRET

To: Secretary General
cc: Deputy Secretary General
ASG for Political Affairs
ASG for Defence Planning and Policy
Executive Secretary

From: Deputy Executive Secretary

Summary record of a private meeting of the Council held on Thursday, 3rd April, 1969, at 9.45 a.m.

- I. RATIFICATION OF THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY
- II. SOVIET COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS
- III. EAST-WEST CONTACTS
- 1. RATIFICATION OF THE NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY

The UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE stated that during a meeting with the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr. Kuznetsov, on 3rd April, Secretary of State Rogers had expressed the opinion that the ratification of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty should take place simultaneously in Washington and Moscow. Mr. Kuznetsov had undertaken to report this suggestion to his Authorities, but observed that whilst the Soviet Union was eager to see the Treaty in operation as soon as possible, the apparent unwillingness of certain European nations to participate would inevitably tend to slow the process of ratification in the Soviet Union. The United States considered that in spite of this reaction the Soviet Union was probably agreeable, in principle, to the United States' proposal.

2. SOVIET COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS

2. The CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE drew attention to a letter which he was circulating, received from the Soviet Authorities by the Secretary of State for External Affairs in Ottawa on 1st April, which constituted a second démarche on the subject of Sino-Soviet relations. The Canadian Government would be interested to hear of any similar communications received in other countries.

3. The ITALIAN REPRESENTATIVE informed the Council of a similar communication which he was circulating, and which the Italian Foreign Minister had received from the Soviet Ambassador in Rome on the same date, giving a detailed account of the events on the Sino-Soviet border. The Minister had replied to the effect that this problem should be solved by patient and peaceful negotiations, and urged the Soviet Authorities to avoid the use of force. The Italian Government viewed with considerable interest these approaches, by which the Soviet Union appeared in effect to be adopting a new policy of seeking the opinion of Western powers.

NATO SECRET

PUBLICLY DISCLOSED - PDN(2018)0014 - MIS EN LECTURE PUBLIQUE

III. EAST-WEST CONTACTS

4. The CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE informed the Council that the Canadian Foreign Minister had accepted, subject to the establishment of a suitable date, an invitation to visit Czechoslovakia in the late summer or autumn. The Minister had also received an invitation to visit Rumania, to which he had not yet replied.

K. W. Andrew

12/4/969
m