

CONSEIL DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD
NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

EXEMPLAIRE N° 371
COPY

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH
10th May, 1954

NATO UNCLASSIFIED
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~~DOCUMENT~~
~~C-M(54)44~~

PRESS RELEASE ON CIVIL DEFENCE

Note by the Secretary General and
Vice-Chairman of the Council

Attached is a copy of a statement adopted by the Civil Defence Committee at its meeting held on 5th May, 1954.

2. The Committee suggested that this statement should be referred to higher authorities in NATO with the recommendation that it should be considered with a view to being issued as a press statement.

3. In view of the harmful effects on public opinion which have been caused by the recent widespread publicity given to the latest developments in atomic and hydrogen weapons, I hope that my colleagues will agree to release the attached statement to the press.

(Signed) ISMAY

Palais de Chaillot,
Paris, XVIe.

In view of the widespread publicity which has been given to the effect of the Hydrogen Bomb, the Civil Defence Committee of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, at their meeting held in Paris on 4th and 5th May, placed on record their opinion that the existence of this bomb has increased the importance of, and the need for, Civil Defence. The Committee further recorded its faith in the effectiveness of civil defence measures to mitigate the effects of all weapons, including Atomic and Hydrogen weapons, and emphasised that, without adequate civil defence measures, the civil population would be exposed to suffering which might otherwise be prevented.