



ORGANISATION DU TRAITÉ DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD
NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

NATO UNCLASSIFIED
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ORIGINAL: ENGLISH/FRENCH

NATO CONFIDENTIAL
RDC/534/55

MEMORANDUM

TO: Secretaries of Delegations
FROM: Executive Secretary

AUSTRIAN NEUTRALITY

With reference to my note RDC/499/55 dated 14th November, 1955, I attach herewith a statement by the British, French and United States Governments concerning the text of the identical but separate replies to be made by the former occupying powers in Austria in response to the note received from the Austrian Government.

(Signed) COLERIDGE

5th December, 1955

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STATEMENT ON TEXT OF REPLY TO AUSTRIAN NOTE ON NEUTRALITY

(TO BE CIRCULATED TO DELEGATIONS ON DECEMBER 5)

It will be recalled that on November 14, 1955, a statement on Austrian neutrality was circulated to delegations. In this statement, the British, French and United States Governments undertook to advise the North Atlantic Council of the text of the identical but separate replies to be made by the former occupying powers in Austria in response to the note received from the Austrian Government.

Four-power consultations in Vienna have led to agreement on a text to be sent to the Austrian representative in each of the four capitals. The American version reads as follows:

"The Department of State has the honor to acknowledge receipt of the note of the Embassy of Austria dated November 14, 1955, informing it that the Austrian parliament approved on October 26, 1955 the federal constitutional law relative to the neutrality of Austria, which entered into force November 5, 1955.

"The Department of State has the honor to inform the Austrian Embassy, in compliance with the request expressed in the note under acknowledgment, that the Government of the United States has taken cognizance of this constitutional law and recognized the perpetual neutrality of Austria as defined therein."

It was also agreed that the notes should be delivered on December 6 and not released to the press before 1500 Vienna time December 6.

The foregoing text should accordingly be treated as confidential until the time indicated.

The British, French and United States Governments would like to take this opportunity to draw attention again to the desirability of the Atlantic Powers' adopting the text in question in making their own replies to the Austrian Government.

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