

CONSEIL DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD
NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

EXEMPLAIRE
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NATO CONFIDENTIAL
ACTION SHEET
AC/52-R(63)6

COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION AND CULTURAL RELATIONS

Meeting held on 21st February, 1963

ACTION SHEET

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I. ANTI-WESTERN PROPAGANDA INCLUDING ACTIVITIES OF COMMUNIST
"FRONT" ORGANIZATIONS

(a) International Congress of Africanists, Accra,
December, 1962

The COMMITTEE:

agreed to defer consideration of this topic until
next week's meeting.

(b) Departure of African Students from Bulgaria

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) noted that the Netherlands authorities had decided to react immediately and positively to the Ghanaian Ambassador in Sofia's request that some of the Ghanaian students who had left Bulgaria should continue their education in the Netherlands; at the same time, the Netherlands wanted to avoid involving these students in cold war politics;
- (2) noted that the German Government would welcome African students from Bulgaria and would try to find possibilities for those of a sufficiently high educational standard to continue their studies in the Federal Republic;
- (3) noted that the United States public position concerning these students was set out on page 9 of the USIS Daily Radio Bulletin of 21st February, 1963; the United States authorities, whilst desiring to avoid showing too blatant an interest in these

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students, in principle, believed that this incident gave the opportunity of down-grading Soviet education amongst African Governmental and educational circles; the United States authorities would, where possible assist a limited number of African students from Bulgaria to enter United States universities if they showed academic ability and leadership potential of a high order, but, in general, thought it best for African students leaving Bloc countries to return to their home countries;

- (4) noted that the German and United States authorities had indications that a mass exodus of African students from Bloc countries might be possible

(c) Tenth International Medical Congress, Havana

The COMMITTEE:

heard a report from the French Representative about this Congress which had been a Soviet propaganda exercise; the French authorities believed that the attention of scientists should be drawn to the fact that their participation in such manifestations could be exploited by the Communists.

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II. PUBLIC POSITIONS OF NATO GOVERNMENTS CONCERNING WORLD EVENTS

(a) Recent Developments in Iraq

The COMMITTEE:

had its attention drawn to the following public statements made about the recent events in Iraq:

- speeches by the Turkish Foreign Minister in Parliament on 9th and 11th February, 1963;
- the United States statement of 11th February, 1963 recognising the new Iraqi Government;
- the Canadian Government's press release of 19th February, 1963 announcing recognition of the Iraqi Government.

(b) Berlin

The COMMITTEE:

noted that the United Kingdom Delegation would shortly distribute a revised edition of the booklet "Khrushchev's Crisis" which could be used on a non-attributable basis.

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III. DISTRIBUTION OF WESTERN INFORMATION BULLETINS IN MOSCOW

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) continued discussion, on the one hand of the United States proposal AC/52-WP(62)48, and on the other hand of the Turkish proposal AC/52-WP(63)1/2;
- (2) with respect to the United States proposal, having noted the replies given to questions posed earlier to the United States authorities, agreed to have a final exchange of view on this matter in a fortnight's time;
- (3) noted that the United States authorities encouraged the distribution of information bulletins in Bloc countries other than the Soviet Union but considered that Moscow should be the first priority for such action; the United States would circulate details of the programmes at present being carried out in Soviet countries;
- (4) with respect to the Turkish proposal, agreed that it would be useful for member governments to report on the use made of information show-cases in Soviet Bloc countries.

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IV. ICFTU YOUTH CONGRESS, VIENNA, 9th-19th JULY, 1963

The COMMITTEE:

was informed that some hundred-and-twenty young members of the Netherlands Labour Trade Union would attend this Congress and it was expected that some observers from the Catholic and Protestant trade unions would also attend.

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V. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A "PEACE CORPS" IN THE NETHERLANDS

The COMMITTEE:

was informed that, following useful contacts with United States experts, the Netherlands had decided to establish a "peace corps", initially with a membership of fifty but expanding to a few hundred

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in 1964; the purpose of this organization would be similar to those of the United States' "peace corps" and administratively it would come under a specially recruited section of the Bureau for International Technical Aid of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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VI. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

28th February, 1963 at 4.00 p.m.

OTAN/NATO,
Paris, XVIIe.

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