

CONSEIL DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD  
NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

EXEMPLAIRE N°  
COPY

155

N A T O - C O N F I D E N T I A L

ORIGINAL: FRENCH  
24th February, 1977

ACTION SHEET  
AC/119-R(77)9

POLITICAL COMMITTEE

Meeting held on Tuesday, 1st and Wednesday,  
2nd February, 1977 at 10.30 a.m.

ACTION SHEET

I. EAST-WEST VISITS

- (a) German-Hungarian talks (at heads of Division level)  
in Budapest 19th and 20th January, 1977

The COMMITTEE:

noted a report by the German Representatives on these talks, which had been concerned mainly with bilateral matters.

- (b) Italo-Polish talks in Rome on 19th and 20th January, 1977

In connection with the information supplied at the last meeting, the COMMITTEE:

received a report from the Italian Representative on the part of the talks between the Polish Deputy Minister, Mr. Czyrek, and the Italian Authorities which had been concerned with the CSCE and especially the preparations for the Belgrade meetings.

- (c) Visit to the Netherlands by the GDR Foreign Minister,  
Mr. O. Fischer (24th to 26th January, 1977)

The COMMITTEE:

was given information by the Netherlands Representative on the gist of Mr. Fischer's talks with various leading figures in the Netherlands.

N A T O C O N F I D E N T I A L

II. THE SITUATION IN THE BALKANS

(a) Yugoslavia

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) was informed by the Italian Representative of comments on Yugoslav views on the Albanian régime and the present state of Albanian-Yugoslav relations based on information from diplomatic sources in Belgrade;
- (2) noted the additional information supplied by the Canadian Representative on this subject;
- (3) took note of a contribution from the Italian Delegation describing the gist of conversations held late in January 1977 between the Italian Ambassador in Belgrade and Mr. Grlickov, the International Affairs Secretary of the League of Communists;
- (4) received from the French Representative (on the basis of a French Embassy report) an assessment of the present state of Yugoslav-GDR relations as they emerged from Mr. Honecker's recent visit to Yugoslavia;
- (5) noted a report from the Greek Representative describing the concern expressed by the Yugoslav Authorities over the recent signs of dissidence in the USSR, Czechoslovakia, the GDR and Poland and, in particular, over possible Soviet reactions to an extension of this movement.

(b) Albania

The COMMITTEE:

at the suggestion of the Greek and United States Representatives, held a brief discussion on the situation in Albania with special reference to the 7th Congress of the Albanian Party.

(c) Bulgaria

The COMMITTEE:

received a request from the Italian Representative that there should be an exchange of views on the desirability of ending the systematic boycott by most of the Allied Ambassadors in Sofia of the traditional wreath-laying at the Dimitrov memorial.

III. THE SITUATION IN THE SOVIET UNION

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) noted a contribution from the United States Representative and comments from the French Representative concerning the reactions of the Soviet Government to the dissident "Orlov Group";
- (2) at the suggestion of the United Kingdom Representative, held a general exchange of views on dissidence in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe (with particular reference to Czechoslovakia) and its repercussions on the eve of the Belgrade meetings.

IV. THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) received an account from the Italian Representative of the Israeli, Egyptian and Polish views on the chances of arriving at a negotiated settlement in the Middle East;
- (2) also noted the information provided by the Italian Representative on the mission by the United Nations Secretary General, Dr. Waldheim, to the Middle East.

V. THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) took note of a contribution from the Italian Delegation describing the views of the Ghanaian Authorities on developments in Southern Africa;
- (2) was informed by the Portuguese Representative of the restrictions recently placed on movements by diplomatic and consular staff in Mozambique.

VI. NEW COMMUNITY FISHING REGULATIONS

The COMMITTEE:

was informed by the United Kingdom Representative (on behalf of the Nine) of the new regulations governing fishing rights in Community waters which had recently been conveyed to the Soviet Union, the GDR and Poland.

VII. THE ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY AND THE PLURALISTIC SOCIETY

The COMMITTEE:

took note of a contribution provided by the Italian Delegation which described an interview on this subject given by an ICP leader to the Christian-Democratic Daily "Il Popolo" on 27th January.

VIII. THE SITUATION IN POLAND

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) discussed at length International Staff draft ISD/135 and noted delegation comments and suggested changes;
- (2) agreed to continue its discussions at the next meeting against the background of a revised draft to be circulated in the meantime by the International Staff.

IX. PROTOCOL TREATMENT OF FIRST SECRETARIES OF COMMUNIST PARTIES WHO ARE NOT HEADS OF STATE

International Staff Draft: ISD/138

The COMMITTEE:

noted the comments on, and proposed changes to, the International Staff's draft and invited the latter to circulate a version amended in the light of the discussions.

X. SECURITY IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ALLIANCE OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE FIRST ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE GENEVA CONVENTION

Reference: Contribution from the German Delegation dated 25th January, 1977

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) held a preliminary discussion on the German proposal that the Military Authorities should be requested to consider the possible security implications for the Alliance of certain articles of the draft first additional Protocol to the Geneva Convention;
- (2) noted that, generally speaking, most delegations could accept the idea of such a study but that some uncertainty remained regarding its scope and timing;
- (3) noted that draft terms of reference which could be forwarded to the Military Authorities after approval by the Council would be circulated by the German Delegation for consideration at the next meeting.

XI. ASSESSMENT OF THE RECENT MEETING OF THE WARSAW PACT POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

International Staff Draft: ISD/136

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) held a detailed discussion on the above draft;
- (2) noted the opinions and comments put forward during the discussion and the fact that the International Staff would prepare in time for the next meeting a revised version of the draft which, after approval by the Committee, would be referred to the Council.

XII. THEME OF THE NEXT APAG MEETING

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) returned to its discussion of a choice of theme for the next APAG meeting;

- (2) noted from the different statements by delegations that they were still divided over the subjects initially proposed and that certain of them were in favour of the second subject;
- (3) accordingly agreed to go back to the subject chosen for the Spring 1976 meeting, namely, "The future of East-West relations including the possible effects of extra-European developments on the security of the Alliance";
- (4) noted that this time the emphasis should preferably be placed on aspects which it had not been possible to deal with at the 1976 meeting, with each delegation remaining free to chose its contribution to the discussions within the limits of the subject selected.

XIII. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CSCE

- (a) Preparation of the reinforced meeting scheduled for 7th February

Reference: POLADS(77)9

The COMMITTEE:

noted that the United Kingdom, United States and Italian Representatives had circulated several preliminary contributions for the discussions to be held at this meeting.

- (b) Calling of a meeting of Parliamentarians from countries which participated in the CSCE (Vienna, 25th and 26th March, 1977)

The COMMITTEE:

took note of the information supplied by the United States and Canadian Representatives regarding the likelihood of such a meeting.

- (c) Reuniting of divided Czech families

The COMMITTEE:

received information from the French and United Kingdom Representatives on this subject.

XIV. CONFIDENCE-BUILDING MEASURES PROVIDED FOR AT THE CSCE:  
NOTIFICATION OF MANOEUVRES AND EXCHANGES OF OBSERVERS

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) noted the circulation by the International Staff of POLADS(77)7, containing a list of points for consideration in preparation for the CBM part of the Belgrade meeting and requested delegations to submit any comments they might have direct to the International Staff;
- (2) discussed the notification of, and invitation of observers to, the Swedish manoeuvres to be held in March 1977;
- (3) at the instance of the French Representative, held a brief exchange of views on the intention expressed by the German Authorities to notify manoeuvres in which about 10,000 men would be taking part and noted the reactions of the various delegations.

XV. REVIEW OF INVENTORY OF PREVENTIVE MEASURES

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) heard the French Representative express objections to the examination by the Committee of the proposed revised version of C-M(72)3 (circulated by the International Staff as ISD/139) until such time as it had been clearly established whether the Committee could deal with this question without a mandate from the Council;
- (2) noted the Chairman's opinion that there were precedents for the Political Committee carrying out certain tasks at the request of the Defence Planning Committee and that there was a case for preserving the procedural arrangements which had evolved between the two Committees over the years;
- (3) noted the opinions of the United Kingdom, United States and Italian Representatives;
- (4) agreed to resume its discussion of this point at its meeting on 15th February, 1977.

XVI. DRAFT TREATY ON THE NON-USE OF FORCE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: REPLIES TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS

The COMMITTEE:

at the request of the Italian Representative, agreed to include this question on its Agenda for the meeting on 22nd February, 1977.

XVII. MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE WARSAW PACT COUNTRIES

The COMMITTEE:

noted the information provided by the United Kingdom Representative regarding the first meeting scheduled to be held in Moscow in March 1977, of a Warsaw Pact "Committee of Foreign Ministers".

XVIII. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETINGS

- Monday, 7th February (exchange of views on the implementation of the CSCE);
- Thursday, 10th February (preparation of the Belgrade meetings on confidence-building measures provided for in the Final Act);
- Tuesday, 15th February: next ordinary meeting.

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