

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

ORIGINAL: FRENCH
2nd April, 1979

ACTION SHEET
AC/119-R(79)30

POLITICAL COMMITTEE

Meeting held at NATO Headquarters, 1110 Brussels,
on Tuesday, 27th March, 1979, at 10.30 a.m.

ACTION SHEET

I. EAST-WEST VISITS AND EXCHANGES

- (a) Visit to Romania by the Norwegian Foreign Minister,
Mr. K. Frydenlund (5th-8th March, 1979)

The COMMITTEE:

noted a report by the Norwegian Representative summarizing the views expressed by the President and Foreign Minister of Romania during the talks they had with Mr. Frydenlund in the course of this visit.

- (b) Proposed military exchanges between Turkey and Romania

The COMMITTEE:

noted a contribution from the Turkish Representative.

II. SOVIET UNION

- (a) Soviet views on the settlement of the Sino-Vietnamese conflict and the situation in different South-East Asian countries

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) noted a contribution from the Italian Representative outlining the views expressed by a senior Soviet Foreign Ministry official during a meeting on 21st March with a member of the Italian Embassy in Moscow;

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- (2) noted the personal views of the French Representative on Soviet foreign policy and Sino-Soviet relations after the Sino-Vietnamese conflict.
- (b) Visit to India by the Soviet Prime Minister, Mr. Kosygin (9th-15th March)

The COMMITTEE:

took note of a contribution from the United Kingdom Representative giving details of this visit and its outcome and providing an analysis of the final communiqué.

III. ALBANIA

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) was informed by the Italian Representative of the views expressed by the Albanian Prime Minister, Mr. Shehu, during recent talks with the Italian Ambassador in Tirana on the development of bilateral exchanges between the two countries and different features of the world situation and Albanian foreign policy, particularly where the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact countries were concerned;
- (2) recorded the further details provided by the French Representative on Albania's recent reassertion of the "intangibility" of its foreign policy and the Albanian viewpoint on the development of the situation in the Balkans;
- (3) heard from the Italian Representative about unconfirmed rumours from East German diplomatic sources to the effect that Albania might be considering renewing relations with Bonn without raising the question of war reparations; noted that the German Representative could neither confirm nor deny these rumours.

IV. YUGOSLAVIA

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) received information from the Danish Representative, based on diplomatic sources in Belgrade, on Yugoslav views concerning Belgrade's relations with the Soviet Union and neighbouring countries (Italy, Greece, Romania, Albania and Bulgaria);
- (2) took note of the information provided by the Turkish Representative on the Macedonian question and the development of the slanging match between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

V. BULGARIA

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) heard information from the United States Representative, based on diplomatic sources in Sofia, to the effect that no confirmation could be obtained of rumours of big Soviet participation in large-scale inter-service manoeuvres in north-eastern Bulgaria;
- (2) compared notes on this matter and heard comments by the Turkish, Greek, Belgian, Danish and Canadian Representatives in that order.

VI. MIDDLE EAST

(a) Israeli-Egyptian agreements

The COMMITTEE:

was informed by the Italian Representative of the issues brought up during the visit to Rome on 22nd and 23rd March by the Vice-President of Egypt, who had come to explain President Sadat's views on the significance of the agreements and the future outlook in the area.

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(b) Yemen

The COMMITTEE:

was given information by the United States Representative on the fall-off in hostilities between North and South Yemen and of the move towards negotiations between the two countries.

VII. AFGHANISTAN

The COMMITTEE:

heard comments by the Canadian Representative on Soviet press articles concerning the situation in Afghanistan and Afghan-Pakistani relations.

VIII. SOUTH-EAST ASIA

(a) The Sino-Vietnamese conflict and its aftermath

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) noted the observations by the United Kingdom Representative, who was commenting on a contribution from the Canadian Delegation circulated on 15th March regarding the repercussions of the Sino-Vietnamese conflict; further noted his opinion that it would be premature to attempt an assessment at this stage and that it would be better to keep a close watch on the situation in the area as a whole;
- (2) noted that the Danish Representative shared this opinion;
- (3) was reminded by the Belgian Representative of a contribution circulated on 22nd March by his delegation which dealt with the Soviet attitude to the conflict, Peking's political objectives and the attitude of other South-East Asian countries, particularly the member countries of ASEAN.

(b) Cambodia

The COMMITTEE:

noted a report by the United States Representative on the present situation in Cambodia.

IX. CAPE VERDE ISLANDS

The COMMITTEE:

noted the information provided by the Portuguese Representative concerning the recent arrival in the Islands of large quantities of Soviet war material and evidence of a strengthening of the Soviet and Cuban military presence.

X. MEETING OF THE WARSAW PACT POLITICAL CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Reference: International Staff Draft ISD/213

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) noted that the Norwegian, Canadian and Netherlands Delegations would shortly be putting out comments on this draft;
- (2) also noted the observations made at the meeting by the Danish, Belgian, Italian and French Representatives;
- (3) in view of the need to issue the document before the end of April, agreed to consider a revised version of the draft, incorporating all the comments made so far by delegations, if possible at the next meeting.

XI. PRESIDENT BREZHNEV'S SPEECH OF 2ND MARCH, 1979

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) noted that the Belgian Representative had circulated an analysis of the foreign policy aspects of Mr. Brezhnev's speech;
- (2) exchanged views on the motives and significance of the references to disarmament and confidence-building measures, particularly with an eye to the Madrid meeting;
- (3) after its exchange of views, agreed on the need to examine further the foreign policy and military security aspects of the speech and discussed several suggestions for the best way of doing so;

- (4) agreed that a preliminary analysis of the foreign policy aspects of the speech would be made by the International Staff on the basis of the national contributions already received or submitted to the International Staff within a week; military security aspects would be examined subsequently, also in the light of national inputs, in a separate paper to be incorporated at a later date in a CBM study which could be finalized for the November 1980 meeting in Madrid;
- (5) agreed to return to this question at the next meeting.

XII. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON CSCE MATTERS INCLUDING CBMs AND CERTAIN ASPECTS OF SECURITY AND DISARMAMENT

(a) Meeting in Valletta

The COMMITTEE:

was informed by the Chairman that much information had been exchanged by correspondence between the delegations and the International Staff during the preceding weeks and that a discussion would be held within the Committee on this matter as soon as all the contributions had been put together.

(b) Meeting of experts to prepare the Madrid meeting (25th April, 1979)

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) was reminded by the United States Representative that a contribution containing the views of his Authorities on the Madrid meeting had been circulated on 31st October, 1978;
- (2) held a brief exchange of views on a Romanian proposal that preparations for the Madrid meeting should be made through an informal meeting of senior Foreign Ministry officials of the participating countries.

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(c) Draft study on CBMs

The COMMITTEE:

agreed to consider International Staff draft ISD/196(Revised) at a special meeting which could be held during the afternoon of Thursday, 12th April.

XIII. ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT ISSUES

(a) Proposal by Sweden for a nuclear arms study by the United Nations

Reference: AC/119-R(79)21, Item XIII(b)

The COMMITTEE:

- (1) was informed by the Netherlands Representative of the present attitude of his Authorities to the proposal by Sweden and to the possibility of Allied countries participating in this study;
- (2) noted that details of the Canadian position would be made known at the next meeting.

(b) Disarmament issues raised at the 33rd UNGA

The COMMITTEE:

took note of a contribution by the Canadian Delegation.

XIV. PRESS COMMUNIQUE

Reference: POLADS(79)12

The COMMITTEE:

noted that, since no objections had been made to the wording of the press communiqué for Exercise "ARDENT ROUND", it could be regarded as politically approved.

XV. DATES OF THE NEXT MEETINGS

- Thursday, 29th March, 1979, at 3.00 p.m.
- Tuesday, 3rd April, 1979, at 10.30 a.m.

NATO,
1110 Brussels.