

CONSEIL DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD  
NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

EXEMPLAIRE N° 374

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SUMMARY RECORD  
C-R(56)59

Summary Record of a meeting of the Council held  
at the Palais de Chaillot, Paris XVIIe. on  
Wednesday, 21st November, 1956 at 10.15 a.m.

PRESENT

Chairman - The Lord Ismay

|                     |           |                     |                  |
|---------------------|-----------|---------------------|------------------|
| Mr. A. de Staercke  | (Belgium) | Mr. N. Hommel       | (Luxembourg)     |
| Mr. L.D. Wilgress   | (Canada)  | Mr. M.F. Vigeveno   | (Netherlands)    |
| Mr. M.A. Wassard    | (Denmark) | Mr. J. Boyesen      | (Norway)         |
| Mr. A. Parodi       | (France)  | Count de Tovar      | (Portugal)       |
| Mr. H. Blankenhorn  | (Germany) | Mr. M.A. Tiney      | (Turkey)         |
| Mr. M. Melas        | (Greece)  | Mr. N.J.A. Cheetham | (United Kingdom) |
| Mr. A. Alessandrini | (Italy)   | Mr. G.W. Perkins    | (United States)  |

INTERNATIONAL STAFF

|                        |                                                               |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Baron A. Bentinck      | (Deputy Secretary General)                                    |
| Mr. A. Casardi         | (Assistant Secretary General for<br>Political Affairs)        |
| Mr. J. Murray Mitchell | (Assistant Secretary General for<br>Production and Logistics) |
| The Lord Coleridge     | (Executive Secretary)                                         |

ALSO PRESENT

|                        |                                                |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| General G.M. de Chasse | (Standing Group Representative)                |
| Mr. J. Vidaud          | (Chairman of the Military<br>Budget Committee) |
| Mr. Le Bigot           |                                                |

CONTENTS

| <u>Item</u> | <u>Subject</u>                                                                                                                                                             | <u>Page No.</u> |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| I.          | Application of the revised system of emoluments for members of the International Staff to the administrative civilian employees in NATO military headquarters and agencies | 3               |
| II.         | Report of the Board of Auditors on the 1955 accounts of NATO headquarters                                                                                                  | 4               |
| III.        | Alert measures                                                                                                                                                             | 4               |

(1) For Item I of the Agenda.

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CONTENTS (Contd.)

| <u>Item</u> | <u>Subject</u>                                                       | <u>Page No.</u> |
|-------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| IV.         | Draft agenda for the Ministerial Meeting                             | 5               |
| V.          | Difficulty in obtaining qualified members of the International Staff | 7               |
| VI.         | Soviet Disarmament statement: preliminary views                      | 8               |
| VII.        | Draft directive to the NATO military authorities                     | 8               |
| VIII.       | Russian troop movements in Bulgaria                                  | 8               |
| IX.         | Petrol shortage                                                      | 9               |
| X.          | Soviet troop movements in Hungary                                    | 9               |
| XI.         | Infrastructure cost sharing                                          | 9               |
| XII.        | Future meetings of the Council                                       | 10              |
|             | Annex                                                                | 11              |

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I. APPLICATION OF THE REVISED SYSTEM OF EMOLUMENTS FOR MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES IN NATO MILITARY HEADQUARTERS AND AGENCIES

Document: C-M(56)124

1. Mr. VIDAUD (Chairman of the Military Budget Committee) said that the purpose of the document before the Council was to place the civilian personnel employed by SHAPE and the Standing Group Agencies on the same footing as the personnel of the International Staff with regard to the new salary system recently approved, which included a provident fund. He wished to refer to the third and fourth recommendations set out in C-M(56)124.

2. The third recommendation, explained in paragraph 5 of the document, covered the possibility of military headquarters and agencies being subject to a study and methods analysis similar to that carried out with regard to the International Staff by a team of experts, in application of paragraphs 8 and 18 of the Report of the Salaries Experts. The application of this recommendation, in the opinion of the Military Budget Committee, would present serious difficulties in military agencies whose responsibilities and duties would not easily form the subject of a technical analysis of the kind usually carried out by management experts. For that reason the Committee had not felt able to submit a concrete proposal to the Council, even of a limited kind. After the Standing Group had been consulted he hoped that this difficulty could be overcome, in order that the principle of such an experts' study could be respected, as proposed on two occasions in the Report of the Experts on Salaries in the International Staff. He added that the date proposed for the application of the revised system of emoluments proposed, that is 1st October, 1956, clearly indicated the intention of the Budget Committee not to hold up the application of the new system until the question of an expert management survey for the military agencies had been completed. Such a survey, whatever its nature, would of course take a certain amount of time.

3. With regard to the fourth recommendation, he pointed out that its implementation did not appear to give rise to any difficulties, particularly because the two Budget Committees had the same chairman. Of course the words "automatically applicable" did not rule out examination by the Military Budget Committee of the special conditions under which decisions taken by the Council should be implemented.

4. The STANDING GROUP REPRESENTATIVE said that the first, second and fourth of the recommendations contained in C-M(56)124 gave rise to no difficulties from the military point of view. The third recommendation (the possibility of a management survey report on NATO military headquarters) gave rise to certain problems. He had asked for the views of the Standing Group on this recommendation, and hoped to receive them in a few days' time.

NATO SECRET  
C-R(56)59NATO RESTRICTED

5. After a brief discussion, the COUNCIL:
- (1) approved the recommendations set forth in paragraph 7(1), (2) and (4) of C-M(56)124;
  - (2) agreed to consider at a later meeting the recommendation contained in paragraph 7(3) of C-M(56)124, referring to the suggestion for an independent organization and methods report on the staffing of the NATO Military Headquarters and Agencies.

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## II. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF AUDITORS ON THE 1955 ACCOUNTS OF NATO HEADQUARTERS

Document: C-M(56)123

6. The CHAIRMAN pointed out that the Council had before them the Report of the Auditors on the 1955 Accounts of NATO Headquarters, (BC-D(56)18) and the recommendations of the Civilian Budget Committee thereon (C-M(56)123). In the report by the Board of Auditors reference was made to paragraph 4 of the addendum to BC-D(56)18 as being a matter outside the Committee's competence. He had raised the question of the payment of installation and separation benefits to unclassified officers at a private meeting of the Council and this had been agreed. The Secretary General himself did not receive installation allowance since a house was provided for him by the Organization. If the Council confirmed the views it had already expressed, the Staff Manual would have to be modified accordingly.

7. There was general agreement that the Staff Manual should be modified to cover the point raised by the Chairman.

8. The COUNCIL:

- (1) approved the accounts of NATO Headquarters for the period ended 31st December, 1955;
- (2) endorsed the views expressed by the Chairman in paragraph 6 above.

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## III. ALERT MEASURES

Document: C-M(56)125

9. The CHAIRMAN reminded the Council that the problem of "Alert Measures" had been before them since July 1953. The recent period of international tension had brought the problem to the fore and a message from the Standing Group on the subject was contained in paragraph 1 of C-M(56)125. In putting this message from the Standing Group to the Council he had thought it well to try to analyse the present position with regard to alerts and had suggested certain action by the Council in paragraph 7 of his report.

NATO SECRET

10. The BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVE said that he could approve the recommendations contained in paragraph 7 of C-M(56)125. In fact, his Government had just taken the necessary action to accept, and to be in a position to execute, the measures in connection with simple alerts.

11. The PORTUGUESE REPRESENTATIVE said that his Government was doing all in its power to conclude negotiations with the military authorities on this subject.

12. The FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE said that negotiations between his Government and the military authorities were also making good progress.

13. The UNITED KINGDOM REPRESENTATIVE said that his Government had concluded its negotiations with SACEUR whose recommendations had been accepted with minor reservations. They hoped to conclude negotiations with CHANCOM and SACLANT in the near future.

14. The UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE wondered whether it was wise, from the psychological point of view, to invite the Standing Group to submit a monthly report (paragraph 7(2) of C-M(56)125. He suggested that the Standing Group be asked to report the position by mid-January.

15. The STANDING GROUP REPRESENTATIVE said that he would be very pleased to brief individual representatives of delegations on the status of their countries' negotiations with the military authorities, if they so desired. He added that the Standing Group attached great importance to seeing the negotiations in question completed as early as possible.

16. The COUNCIL:

- (1) invited Permanent Representatives of those countries which had not completed negotiations on alert measures with the NATO Commands concerned to expedite the conclusion of those negotiations to the maximum possible extent;
- (2) invited the Standing Group to submit a report by 15th January, 1957, showing which nations had completed negotiations with the three commands concerned;
- (3) agreed that, on receipt of this report, they would consider whether further reports were necessary.

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IV. DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE MINISTERIAL MEETING

Document: PO(56)1077

17. The UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE suggested that Item III of the draft agenda (Review of the international situation, and the reappraisal of the NATO defence effort) should be broken down into two distinct items. It might be well to recommend that the review of the international situation should be undertaken in a restricted meeting composed primarily of Foreign Ministers.

18. The CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE said that he did not completely agree with the United States suggestion. In the past there had been an item on the ministerial agenda entitled "Review of the International Situation", and that had given rise to long, set speeches. The forthcoming ministerial meeting would certainly be a vital one in the history of NATO, during which the essential task would be to solidify the Alliance after the events of recent weeks. It was therefore extremely important to have a full, frank and informal discussion among Ministers. For that reason he believed that it would be better to use the directive to the NATO military authorities as the focussing point for discussion. He was prepared to consider any suggestion for procedure that would ensure the kind of soul-searching among Ministers which he believed essential.

19. The BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVE said that he completely agreed with the Canadian Representative as to the purpose of the forthcoming meeting. However, he was not sure that the procedure he had suggested was the best one to ensure this purpose.

20. In the discussion that followed, there was general agreement with the views expressed by the Canadian Representative as to the purpose of the meeting, but a variety of suggestions were made as to the best procedure for achieving the purpose. Finally, the BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVE suggested that the discussion of the international situation, whatever final title was agreed on for this item, should be held early in the meeting. Further, it should be a discussion among Foreign Ministers at an informal, restricted meeting, in Conference Room III. There was general agreement with this proposal.

21. In the discussion of the Belgian Representative's suggestion, the following main points were made:

- (a) discussion by Foreign Ministers should be focussed on the lessons to be learnt in the political field from the events of the past weeks;
- (b) the Secretariat should be invited to bring up-to-date, if possible, Part 2 of the paper on trends and implications of Soviet policy. Mr. Casardi (Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs) said that he thought the Secretariat could undertake this commitment;
- (c) there would be no attempt, as in previous years, to ask individual Ministers to speak on specific topics under the review of the international situation;
- (d) it would be helpful if the Chairman of the North Atlantic Council could be in Paris some days before the opening of the meeting. The Italian Representative said that he would bring this point to the attention of his Foreign Minister;
- (e) it would be desirable for a draft communiqué to be prepared in advance of the Ministerial Meeting;

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- (f) the report of the Committee of Three would arrive in Paris on the following day, and would be circulated to delegations as quickly as possible. A decision as to making the report public would be taken by the Council at a later meeting;
- (g) the Council would decide at a later meeting on the order of the items on the agenda, and in particular as to the timing of the Foreign Ministers' discussion on the one hand, and the discussion by the full Council on the report of the Committee of Three on the other hand;
- (h) the revision of the summary of Article 2 activities to be undertaken by the International Staff could not be completed in time for the ministerial meeting.

22. The COUNCIL:

- (1) agreed to recommend that the review of the international situation, whatever the wording finally agreed for this item, should be discussed at a restricted meeting of Foreign Ministers, at an early date during the ministerial meeting, attendance being limited to four per delegation. The discussion would take place in Conference Room III;
- (2) invited the Secretary General to prepare and circulate a revised draft agenda in the light of the discussion which had taken place, with alternative titles for the items and an alternative order of items, as necessary.

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V. DIFFICULTY IN OBTAINING QUALIFIED MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL STAFF

23. The CHAIRMAN brought the following facts to the notice of the Council. Recently an attempt had been made to recruit two members for the Political Division, in Germany. Two German nationals with the requisite qualifications had been asked whether they would accept appointments on the International Staff. They had just written to say that, after reflection, they had come to the conclusion that the financial inducements offered by NATO did not justify them in accepting the posts offered. He made this point to stress to the Council the difficulty he was finding in recruiting suitable staff, for financial reasons.

24. The COUNCIL:

took note of the Chairman's statement.

VI. SOVIET DISARMAMENT STATEMENT: PRELIMINARY VIEWS

25. The UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE gave the preliminary views of his Government with regard to the recent Soviet disarmament statement. (For full text of this statement see annex to this record.)

26. The CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE also gave the preliminary views of his Government on this question. (He subsequently circulated a copy of the statement to all delegations.)

27. The UNITED KINGDOM REPRESENTATIVE said that the preliminary views of his Government were almost identical with those just expressed by the Canadian Representative.

28. The GERMAN REPRESENTATIVE said that his delegation proposed to circulate a paper outlining the views of his Government on this question. He asked whether there would be a further opportunity for discussing this matter in the Council.

29. The COUNCIL:

agreed to decide at a later meeting whether a further discussion of the Soviet Disarmament Statement was desirable, after it had examined the texts of the United States, Canadian and German statements.

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VII. DRAFT DIRECTIVE TO THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES

30. The CHAIRMAN informed the Council that this paper was in process of being circulated. He asked the Council when it would like to consider the paper.

31. The COUNCIL:

agreed to consider the paper in private session on Thursday, 22nd November, at 3.30 p.m.

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VIII. RUSSIAN TROOP MOVEMENTS IN BULGARIA

32. The GREEK REPRESENTATIVE informed the Council that his Government had instructed him to say that recent reports as to Russian troop concentrations in Bulgaria were without foundation.

33. The COUNCIL:

took note of the statement by the Greek Representative.

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IX. PETROL SHORTAGE

34. The FRENCH REPRESENTATIVE said that he would make enquiries to find out whether his authorities could help national delegations, and the International Staff on a short-time basis, in the matter of petrol shortage.

35. The BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVE asked what was the effect of the petrol shortage on the military capabilities of the European Command. He wondered whether the Standing Group Representative could find out the position and report to the Council.

36. The STANDING GROUP REPRESENTATIVE said that he knew that as soon as the crisis had arisen SACEUR had promoted a study on stocks available for supplies at wartime rates for forces assigned and earmarked to him. The Standing Group had been asked for their opinion on the consequences of the petrol shortages in Europe on the preparation and training of NATO forces in peacetime and on the build-up and maintenance of fuel stock levels. The Council would be informed of the position as soon as possible.

37. The NORWEGIAN REPRESENTATIVE said that he was glad that SACEUR had taken the initiative in this matter, but thought that the possible effect of petrol shortage on the military functioning of the Alliance was a question which should be discussed in the Council.

38. The COUNCIL:

took note of the points made in the course of the discussion on this question.

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X. SOVIET TROOP MOVEMENTS IN HUNGARY

39. The STANDING GROUP REPRESENTATIVE, in reply to a question by the Canadian Representative, said that he had no new information to give the Council with regard to Soviet troop movements in Hungary. He would report to the Council as soon as he had any information on this point.

40. The COUNCIL:

took note of the statement by the Standing Group Representative.

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XI. INFRASTRUCTURE COST SHARING

41. The CHAIRMAN, in reply to a question by the United Kingdom Representative, said that he would report to the Council on the progress made with regard to cost sharing of future Infrastructure Programmes as soon as possible. He reminded the Council that he had undertaken to report to it not later than 30th November.

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42. The COUNCIL:

took note of the Chairman's statement.

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XII. FUTURE MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL

43. Private meeting: Thursday, 22nd November at 3.30 p.m.

Formal meeting: Wednesday, 28th November at 10.15 a.m.  
(with the Standing Group)

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UNITED STATES PRELIMINARY VIEWS REGARDING SOVIET DISARMAMENT  
STATEMENT

1. Much of the statement is clearly designed to obscure the Soviet responsibility for the tragic events in Hungary and to mask Soviet efforts to impede the work of the United Nations in bringing peace with justice to the troubled Middle East.

2. The threatening remarks about Soviet capabilities against Western Europe appear gratuitous, irrelevant and hardly in keeping with the peace-loving pose adopted by the Soviet authorities.

3. Most of the material on disarmament appears to reiterate previous Soviet positions.

4. The Soviets do indicate some serious consideration of the proposal for aerial inspection first set forth by President Eisenhower in his Geneva "open skies" offer. The President proposed mutual aerial inspection of the Soviet Union and the United States as a safeguard against a great surprise attack. The Soviet statement does not include such reciprocal opening of skies over the Soviet Union and the United States, which is the essence of President Eisenhower's offer. But by its statement the Soviet Union appears to recognise the importance and efficiency of aerial inspection.

The United States, in consultation with other governments concerned, will continue to give the Soviet statement close study.