CONSEIL DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD
NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

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

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WORKING PAPER
AC/276-WP(72)34

MUTUAL AND BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS WORKING GROUP

FUTURE WORK PROGRAMME OF THE SUB-GROUP ON MOVEMENT CONSTRAINTS

Note by the Chairman of the Sub-Group on Movement Constraints

At their meeting on 11th August, 1972, the Sub-Group on Movement Constraints discussed the future Work Programme for their continued study.

2. The first part of the study, as reported in Working Paper AC/276-WP(72)27 of 29th June, 1972, limited itself to:

- ground forces
- in the NATO Guidelines Area
- with the same constraints on both sides
- in a pre-MBFR situation.

3. Even though it would be more logical to build upon this foundation gradually, by imposing step by step more complex circumstances to the problem, the Sub-Group decided to leave such an approach because of two reasons:

- this procedure will be too time-consuming;
- the results obtained will perhaps not be the most needed at the beginning of exploratory talks with the other side.

4. The Sub-Group, considering the first finished part of the study to be the smallest concept concerning possible areas and constraints, propose to take as a second step of the study the greatest concept concerning areas and constraints.

5. From the scale of possibilities offered in AC/276(SGMC)-N/4, the Sub-Group chose for the next study:

- Ground forces and Air lift of ground forces.
- Constraints area on NATO side: West Germany, Benelux countries (North) Norway, Greece and Turkey.

- Constraints area on WP side: East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, 3 WMDs, Bulgaria and areas adjacent to Turkey.

- Same constraints on both sides

and also

- Same constraints on both sides, but variable in different zones.

- Pre-MBFR and Post-MBFR.

6. Although realising that the areas mentioned in paragraph 5 are not equal in size, the Sub-Group:

- are of the opinion that the inclusion of the territories of the United Kingdom and/or Denmark is not opportune.

- will not include the territory of France, unless the Working Group request them to do so.

7. The MBFR Working Group is requested:

- to approve the Sub-Groups proposal for the second step of the study on Movement Constraints or to provide an alternative approach.

- to inform the Sub-Group about the desirability of including or excluding the territory of France in a Movement Constraints Concept.

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