

**7. North Atlantic Council meetings**  
**16-18 SEPTEMBER 1950**  
**Final Communiqué**  
**Chairman: Mr. Acheson.**

**Synopsis**

Integrated military force to be set up under centralized command The Federal Republic of Germany to contribute to defence of Western Europe.

The North Atlantic Council has devoted its three-day meeting to a thorough discussion of the major questions presented by the urgent need to strengthen collective defence. The Council was determined to proceed with the necessary measures to this end. The discussions dealt with matters of far-reaching importance and related principally to the creation, in the shortest possible time, of an integrated military force adequate for the defence of freedom in Europe, and to the related questions of the character of participation in the force, its military organization and matters of supply, finance and raw materials. The proposal for such a force supported by appropriate supply and financial arrangements, based on collective effort, was warmly welcomed and it was decided that the Ministers should promptly consult their governments as to the way in which such a plan could be put into effect. Many of the problems involve considerations of a character which make such consultations necessary so as to enable decisions to be taken promptly.

To permit these consultations to take place, the Council has recessed subject to call by the Chairman during the next two weeks.

**26 SEPTEMBER 1950**  
**Final Communiqué**

Chairman: Mr. Acheson

**Synopsis**

Integrated military force to be set up under centralized command- The Federal Republic of Germany to contribute to defence of Western Europe.

The North Atlantic Council reconvened today to resume discussions. The Council has been in recess since Monday, September 18. During the interval

of this recess the Foreign Ministers have been in consultation with their governments.

The Council agreed upon the establishment at the earliest possible date of an integrated force under centralized command, which shall be adequate to deter aggression and to ensure the defence of Western Europe.

The concept of the integrated force approved by the Council is based upon the following principles:

1. The force will be organized under the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and will be subject to political and strategic guidance exercised by the appropriate agencies of that organization.
1. The force will be under a Supreme Commander who will have sufficient delegated authority to ensure that national units allocated to his command are organized and trained into an effective integrated force in time of peace as well as in the event of war.
2. The Supreme Commander will be supported by an international staff representing; all nations contributing to the force.
3. Pending the appointment of a Supreme Commander there is to be appointed a Chief-of-Staff who will have responsibility for training and organization.
4. The Standing Group of the Military Committee of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization will be responsible for higher strategic direction of the integrated force.

The finalisation by the Council of the arrangements for the integrated force must await the recommendations of the Defence Committee on the following points:

The Council has requested the Defence Committee of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to work out the organization of the integrated force and to recommend the steps necessary to bring this force into being at the earliest possible time. The Council has also requested the Defence Committee to consider changes and simplifications required in the military structure of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and related military organizations and to consider how best to ensure the necessary close working relationship between the Standing Group and the member governments not represented on it.

The Council agreed that in order to bring the integrated force into effective being all available manpower and productive resources should be fully utilized for the defence of Western Europe. To this end the North Atlantic Treaty Organization will consider the precise character and composition of the forces to be allocated to the integrated force by member governments.

Decisions regarding the allocation of such forces will be sought from member governments at an early date.

The utilization of German manpower and resources was discussed in the light of views recently expressed, by democratic leaders in Germany and elsewhere. The Council was in agreement that Germany should be enabled to contribute to the build-up of the defence of Western Europe, and noting that the Occupying Powers were studying the matter, requested the Defence Committee to make recommendations at the earliest possible date as to the methods by which Germany could most usefully make its contribution.

In accordance with the policy of annual rotation of the Chairmanship the Foreign Minister of Belgium, The Honorable Paul van Zeeland, has assumed the Chairmanship of the Council for the coming year.

In adjourning their meeting the Ministers reaffirmed the unity of the free peoples which they represent in their common determination to preserve the peace, the security and the freedom of the Atlantic community.

### 18-19 DECEMBER 1950

#### Final Communiqué

Chairman: Mr. P. van Zeeland, Foreign Minister of Belgium.

#### Synopsis

Council appoints General Eisenhower to be SACEUR - Approves creation of a Defence Production Board - Invites the three Occupying Powers to explore with the German Federal Government Germany's participation in defence.

The North Atlantic Council acting on recommendations of the Defence Committee today completed the arrangements initiated in September last for the establishment in Europe of an integrated force under centralized control and command. This force is to be composed of contingents contributed by the participating governments.

The Council yesterday unanimously decided to ask the President of the United States to make available General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower to serve as Supreme Commander. Following receipt this morning of a message from the President of the United States that he had made General Eisenhower available, the Council appointed him. He will assume his command and establish his headquarters in Europe early in the New Year.

He will have the authority to train the national units assigned to his command and to organize them into an effective integrated defence force. He will be supported by an international staff drawn from the nations contributing to the force.

The Council, desiring to simplify the structure of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in order to make it more effective, asked the Council Deputies to initiate appropriate action. In this connection the Defence Committee, meeting separately on 18th December, had already taken action to establish a Defence Production Board with greater powers than those of the Military Production and Supply Board which it supersedes. The new Board is charged with expanding and accelerating production and with furthering the mutual use of the industrial capacities of the member nations.

The Council also reached unanimous agreement regarding the part which Germany might assume in the common defence. The German participation would strengthen the defence of Europe without altering in any way the purely defensive character of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The Council invited the Governments of France, the United Kingdom and the United States to explore this matter with the Government of the German Federal Republic.

The decisions taken and the measures contemplated have the sole purpose of maintaining and consolidating peace. The North Atlantic nations are determined to pursue this policy until peace is secure.

**15-20 SEPTEMBER 1951**  
**Final Communiqué**  
Chairman: Mr. P. van Zeeland.

### **Synopsis**

For the first time Foreign, Defence and Economic/ Finance Ministers meet in the Council - Temporary Council Committee (TCC) and a Ministerial Committee on the Atlantic Community created - Infrastructure programme agreed.

The North Atlantic Council has concluded its seventh session, in which for the first time the member governments were represented by Foreign Ministers, Defence Ministers and Economic or Finance Ministers. The new composition of the Council reflects the wide fields in which co-ordination is being steadily developed.

In an exchange of views on the world situation, note was taken of the growing confidence and strength of the Atlantic Community in a world of continuing tension. The Council was informed by the Occupying Powers of the progress of discussions directed toward the establishment of a new relationship with the German Federal Republic. It was also informed of the statement made by the three Foreign Ministers after their meeting in Washington in which they welcomed the plan for a European Defence Community of which Germany would form part.

The Council, considering that the security of the North Atlantic area would be enhanced by the accession of Greece and Turkey to the North Atlantic Treaty, agreed to recommend to the member governments that, subject to the approval of national parliaments under their respective legislative procedures, an invitation should be addressed as soon as possible to the Kingdom of Greece and the Republic of Turkey to accede to the Treaty.

The Council considered the reports submitted by the military and civilian agencies of the Treaty Organization:

- a. The Standing Group reported on the establishment and development of the integrated force under General Eisenhower and progress on other military matters.
- b. The Defence Production Board reported on the problems relating to the further development of production and recommended means of dealing with these problems.
- c. The Financial and Economic Board presented a report analyzing the economic and financial impact of the NATO defence effort with special reference to the equitable sharing of the burden.
- d. The Council Deputies, the permanent working body of the Treaty Organization, reported on their activities in political, organization, and administrative matters and in developing closer co-ordination between the Treaty agencies.
- e. The Chairman of the Council Deputies summarized the major issues before the Organization and suggested action to meet them.

As a result of the study of these reports, the Council issued guidance and directives to the respective agencies concerning their future work.

All member governments recognize as their joint aim the building up of defence forces to a sufficient level of strength, and the no less important objective of a sound and stable economy necessary to support that effort. The reports of the Defence Production Board and of the Financial and Economic Board, and the discussion thereon, have indicated a number of difficulties in the production and economic fields. The member countries recognize the need to surmount such difficulties in order to assure the continued progress

of their efforts to strengthen the free world. The Council has noted the danger of inflation, the burdens which increased defence efforts place on the balance of payments, and the obstacles to an adequate defence arising from price and allocation pressures on raw material supplies. The Ministers recognized that the common effort requires a common attack upon these problems, and agreed to take such action severally and jointly as they deem appropriate to find solutions to them.

Accordingly a temporary committee of the Council was established to survey urgently the requirements of external security, and particularly of fulfilling a militarily acceptable NATO plan for the defence of Western Europe, and the realistic political-economic capabilities of the member countries, with a view to determining possible courses of action for their reconciliation so as to achieve the most effective use of the resources of the member countries.

The Council received reports from the member governments on the status of the defence effort in their countries and referred them to the military agencies and appropriate commands for study and recommendations to improve the early effectiveness and availability of forces.

The Council noted that agreement has been reached on the financing of an "infrastructure" program of airfields, communications, and certain installations for the support of forces. These projects will continue without delay.

The Council has issued a separate statement making clear the importance which the member governments attach to the development of the Atlantic community, not only to safeguard their freedom and common heritage on an equal footing but also to strengthen their free institutions and to advance the well-being of their peoples. The statement announced the establishment of a ministerial committee to study and recommend lines of future action toward these objectives.

The Council resolved that, in order to develop more effective unity of action, and in accordance with its duties as the institution for forming the policy and directing the operations of the Treaty Organization, its meetings would be held more frequently and at more regular intervals. In order to continue progress on the problems discussed at the Seventh Session, it was agreed that the question of the date of the next meeting of the Council, which will be held in Rome, would be referred to the Council Deputies for decision.

**20-25 FEBRUARY 1952**  
**Final Communiqué**  
Chairman: Mr. L.B. Pearson.

Synopsis

Accession of Greece and Turkey - Proposed European Defence Community - TCC recommendations adopted - Infrastructure- Military terms of reference revised - Adaptation of NATO's organization by appointment of a Secretary General heading a unified international secretariat and establishment of the North Atlantic Council in permanent session in Paris - Atlantic Community Committee's report adopted.

1. The ninth session of the North Atlantic Council was held in Lisbon from February 20th to February 25th 1952, under the Chairmanship of the Hon. Lester B. Pearson, Canadian Secretary of State for External Affairs. On February 18th, the Kingdom of Greece and the Republic of Turkey acceded to the Treaty, and representatives of their respective governments attended throughout the session. In all, thirty-five Ministers of fourteen countries took part in the discussions of the Council.
2. The Council made further progress in dealing with current and long-range problems of the Atlantic Community. The decisions taken and the agreements reached by the Council are the practical result of projects initiated at earlier sessions and reflect the continuing work of the Treaty agencies. They represent the united efforts of member governments to safeguard the peace, stability and well-being of the North Atlantic Community through the strengthening of their collective defence.
3. The Council took note of a report of the Paris Conference on the European Defence Community and a report by the Occupying Powers on the proposed contractual arrangements with the German Federal Republic. The Council found that the principles underlying the Treaty to establish the European Defence Community conformed to the interests of the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty. It also agreed on the principles which should govern the relationship between the proposed Community and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. The North Atlantic Council agreed to propose to its members and to the European Defence Community reciprocal security undertakings between the members of the two organizations. Such undertakings would require ratification in accordance with the constitutional processes of the states involved. All these decisions are inspired by the conviction that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Defence Community have a common objective, to strengthen the defence of the Atlantic area, and that the development of the European Defence Community should be carried

forward in this spirit. Therefore, the Council considered that the obligations and relationships between the Communities should be based on the concept of two closely related organizations, one working, so far as this objective is concerned, within the framework of, and reinforcing the other.

4. The Council took detailed and comprehensive action based on the recommendations of the Temporary Council Committee. The decisions taken by the Council provided for the earliest building up of balanced collective forces to meet the requirements of external security within the capabilities of member countries. Agreement was reached on the specific defensive strength to be built this year, and on a definite programme of measures to be taken this year to increase defensive strength in following years. A number of important steps were agreed to be taken by the Treaty Organization and by member governments to accomplish this building-up with a more efficient use of resources. Policies designed to maintain and strengthen the economies and social stability of member countries were agreed and recommended to governments.
5. Agreement was reached on the financing of a further portion of the infrastructure program, for airfields, communications and headquarters.
6. The terms of reference of the Standing Group and of the Supreme Commander, Allied Powers in Europe, were revised to reflect added responsibilities, notably for equipment priorities and planning for the logistical support of the military forces. The Council agreed that the ground and air forces of Greece and Turkey assigned to NATO will operate under the overall command of SACEUR through Commander-in-Chief, Southern Europe. The Naval Forces of Greece and Turkey will remain for the present under their national Chiefs of Staff, operating in close co-ordination with all other naval forces in the Mediterranean. The Standing Group was directed to continue its study of command of naval forces in the Mediterranean area and their co-ordination with land and air forces and to submit a definitive report to the Council at its next meeting.
7. The Council also took action to adapt the Treaty Organization to the needs arising from the development of its activities from the planning to the operational stage. The North Atlantic Council, while continuing to hold periodic Ministerial meetings, will henceforth function in permanent session through the appointment of Permanent Representatives. The Council decided to appoint a Secretary-General, who will head a unified international Secretariat designed to assist the Council in the fulfillment of its increasing responsibilities. All civilian activities of the Organization will be concentrated in the geographical area where are situated other international agencies whose work is closely related to that of the Treaty Organization and with which close administrative connection is essential to efficiency. These are presently situated in the vicinity of Paris. When these changes become effective, the Council will assume the functions hitherto

performed by the Council Deputies, the Defence Production Board, and the Financial and Economic Board.

8. The Council adopted a report of the Atlantic Community Committee, established at its Ottawa meeting. This report emphasized the importance of economic co-operation, the expansion and liberalization of trade, and the possibility of working out closer co-operative arrangements with other bodies, particularly the OEEC. In approving the analysis of the problem of the movement of labor between member countries in the report of the Atlantic Community Committee, the Council acknowledged the importance of this problem and endorsed the resolution of the Temporary Council Committee on this subject. It was agreed that the permanent North Atlantic Treaty Organization should keep this problem under continuous review, and make recommendations for the elimination, by the most effective utilization of manpower resources, of general or specific manpower shortages which hinder defence production. As co-operation in the field covered by the Five Power Atlantic Community Committee is of direct and common concern to each member of the Council, it was decided that the future work in this sphere should be transferred to the Council.
  9. The Council issued a Declaration reaffirming the aims of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization as the promotion of peace through defensive strength and enduring progress.
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