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OFFICE OF
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

September 27, 1950

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SUMMARY OF TELEGRAMS

NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL In the seventh meeting of the North Atlantic Council yesterday, the Council approved the final communique and a resolution on the measures taken and planned for the defense of Europe and adjourned with the understanding that the time and place of the next Council meeting would be studied by the Council Deputies. During the discussions, the Secretary reported his meeting with the Turkish Ambassador when he communicated the Council's decision that Turkey, if it desired, could associate itself with the planning work of the organization relating to the defense of the Mediterranean. The Secretary informed the Council that, since Turkey has not replied to this invitation, no approach has been made to Greece on this subject. The Secretary then gave a brief resume of the recent meetings of the US-UK-French Foreign and Defense Ministers. In separate statements by certain Foreign Ministers, the Danish Foreign Minister stated that Denmark agrees with the concept of defending Europe as far to the east as possible and with the integrated defense force proposed by the US, with the understanding that one of the tasks of the integrated defense force is the defense of all of western Europe including Denmark. With respect to German participation in the defense force, he stated that the Danes recognize the need of utilizing all available forces and believe the US proposal provides the basis for German participation without reviving German militarism. He noted that the implementation of the proposals may require constitutional amendments and the Danish position is therefore subject to this condition. The Norwegian Foreign Minister stated that Norway agrees that an integrated force for the defense of Europe is a realistic and necessary step to strengthen the North Atlantic Treaty and stressed the problems of defending Norway against attack. He stated that Norway agrees in principle with German participation in an integrated defense force provided that there are sufficient guarantees to prevent resurgence of German militarism and that the West German Government desires to participate. The Portuguese representative in an involved statement indicated Portuguese agreement with German participation in the defense force and with the

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creation of an integrated force, provided there is satisfactory agreement on a number of points regarding the relationship of the Supreme Commander and the Standing Group to the governments of the member countries not contributing forces to the integrated defense force. He noted in this regard that Portugal cannot contribute forces because of its commitments at home and overseas.

In a separate meeting held earlier with Foreign Ministers of Norway and the Benelux countries on the subject of German participation in the European defense force, the Secretary explained the progress made in the recent discussions with the UK and France. He expressed his personal belief that French Defense Minister Moch had left the meetings in a more cooperative frame of mind and that, in spite of probable difficulties in the French House of Deputies, Moch and Schuman would urge the French Government to make a favorable decision. Both the Luxembourg and Belgian Foreign Ministers noted the difficulties facing the French in reaching such a decision, with the latter stressing that we proceed slowly with the French in this connection.

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