

NLT (Naval Aide) 109

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State Dept. Guidelines, March 6, 1982
By DEB NLT, Date 6-16-84
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SUMMARY OF TELEGRAMS

Rose:
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WESTERN EUROPE

We have informed our missions in the North Atlantic Treaty (NAT) countries of our concern over the view expressed by Belgian Foreign Minister Van Zeeland that the task of the other NAT partners is one of reconciling differences between the US and French positions on western European defense. We stressed that this view does not correspond with reality and pointed out that virtually all of the NAT members in the Defense Committee meetings indicated the belief that the French plan was militarily unsound, politically impossible of realization, and therefore does not address itself to the most vital and urgent problem which confronts the NAT members--the rapid build-up of an effective European defense system. We believe that the immediate task of all NAT members is to find a solution to this problem and that the following criteria must be met by any compromise solution: 1) that the plan is militarily sound; 2) it is acceptable to all NAT members and to Western Germany; and 3) it is capable of immediate implementation and does not depend upon a series of conditions which may never be realized or might take many months to work out. We believe therefore that a decision cannot be made to hold a meeting of the NAT Council until the Deputies and the Military Committee have concluded their work on the problem of German participation, since a Council meeting which ended in another deadlock would be unfortunate from every viewpoint.

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KOREA

Our Charge in Seoul reports that there has been a considerable decrease in the movement of vehicles southward across the Yalu River from Manchuria and that the Chinese forces in the Eighth Army sector have apparently withdrawn northward for regrouping with North Korean remnants. Our Charge comments that, while it is difficult to determine Chinese Communist intentions on the basis of information currently available, Chinese intervention thus far cannot be regarded as of a direct and open nature or as an all-out continuous effort on the part of the Chinese Communists. He states that the Chinese have suffered severe losses and their failure to follow up early successes and their defensive attitude during the past few days suggest that any plans they may have had for all-out intervention may have been modified.

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