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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON

August 23, 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CONNELLY



Subject: White House Ceremony for the Entry
Into Force of the North Atlantic
Treaty

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In accordance with the President's wishes, arrange-
ments have been made for deposit of the instruments of
ratification of the North Atlantic Treaty by Denmark,
France, Italy, and Portugal at the White House on ~~Wednesday~~ ~~August 24,~~ ~~at 12:30 p.m.~~ ~~x 488~~

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In addition to the Ambassadors or Chargés d'Affaires
of the countries listed above there will be present the
Ambassadors or Chargés d'Affaires of each of the other
North Atlantic Pact nations. A list of those persons who
will participate in the ceremony is attached.

The following procedure is planned:

- (1) Each of the Ambassadors of the four ratifying countries will present to Secretary Acheson his instrument of ratification and will make a short statement consisting of only a few sentences. The Secretary will then reply with very brief remarks which will concern only the functions of this Government as depository government of the Treaty.
- (2) It is suggested that the President then make a short statement, of which a proposed draft is attached. After concluding the statement, the President should then sign the proclamation on the entry into force of the Treaty, and the Secretary of State will countersign.

There will be no statements by any of the Ambassadors other than those presenting instruments of ratification.

I assume you will take care of the necessary press arrangements with Mr. Ross. If you have any further questions, please call me.

Carl Humelsine
C. H. Humelsine

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x Permanent File - North Atlantic Treaty

AUGUST 24, 1949

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT
On the Coming into Effect of the North Atlantic Treaty.

With the deposit of instruments of ratification by Denmark, France, Italy and Portugal, the North Atlantic Treaty today enters into effect. This is a momentous occasion not only for all the signatories of the Treaty, but for all peoples who share our profound desire for stability and peaceful development.

By this treaty we are not only seeking to establish freedom from aggression and from the use of force in the North Atlantic community, but we are also actively striving to promote and preserve peace throughout the world. In these endeavors, we are acting within the framework of the United Nations Charter, which imposes on us all the most solemn obligations.

These obligations, which bind us to settle international disputes by peaceful means, to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territory or independence of any country, and to support the United Nations in any action it may take to preserve peace, are all clearly stated in the North Atlantic Treaty.

Today, as this Treaty comes into effect, it seems particularly appropriate to rededicate ourselves to the carrying out of the great task we have set for ourselves -- the preservation of stability and peace. No nation need fear the results of our cooperation toward this end. On the contrary, the more closely the nations of the Atlantic community can work together for peace, the better for all people everywhere.


