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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
STAFF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

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Army pass Dept of Defense.

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Summary First Meeting, Fifth Session, North Atlantic Council. 10:30 am Sept 15.

1. Adopted proposed agenda (DOC C 5-D/1).

2. Received report of Deputies and raised fol points: Norway stressed desirability for greater exchange of views among Deputies on common political matters to give smaller countries better opportunity to formulate judgements. Portugal indicated adoption of HPPP shld not preclude consideration of production program which Portugal might adopt in near future and assumed that financial arrangements proposed by Deputies did not exclude bilateral arrangements for transfers. Italy felt examination of polit question by Deputies shld not jeopardize exchanges of view through regular diplomatic channels. Also suggested Deputies public info program was delicate matter and shld be handled by small competent staff and shld not become "another UNESCO". France emphasized need for establishing permanent finance system to provide for MTP. Re info program, France stressed each country must tailor its program to natl problems, and stressed implementation of info program as a natl responsibility. Denmark echoed Italian and French views on info program.

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3. Secretary opened discussion of item 4 by stating action this item was key to future NATO. He solicited views of other members on this most important question. Netherlands opened by stressing need for defense line as far East in Germany as possible and raised both question of more troops in Europe (US, UK and Canada) or possible German participation in European Defense. UK emphasized need for West to use maximum strength to avoid occupation and the necessity for military planners to know what forces they might expect in planning defense. French favored increased US, UK and Canadian Forces in Europe but expressed reservations re arming of Germany. US closed session by emphasizing that alternatives suggested by Netherlands were not in fact alternatives and that both courses suggested by Netherlands would be necessary to build sufficient strength. In recessing for lunch Secretary stated his opinion it duty of all Council Members to speak and with absolute frankness on this vital question.

4. Afternoon meeting reported in fol telegram.

ACTION: STD-GP(NATO)

INFO : OCA, OAGO, CSA, G2, G3, SECDEF, OMA, JCS, OSA

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