

CONSEIL DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD
NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

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PUBLIC DISCLOSED

EXEMPLAIRE

N°

356

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH
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~~NATO SECRET~~
SUMMARY RECORD
C-R(54)36

Summary Record of a meeting of the Council held
at the Palais de Chaillot, Paris XVIe, on
Tuesday, 5th October, at 10.15 a.m.

PRESENT

Chairman - The Lord Ismay

Mr. A. de Staercke	(Belgium)	Mr. A. Philippe	(Luxembourg)
Mr. K.J. Burbridge	(Canada)	Jonkheer A.W.L. Tjarda van Starckenborgh	(Netherlands)
Mr. J.A. Vestbirk	(Denmark)	Stachouwer	
Mr. M. Couve de Murville	(France)	Mr. A. Skaug	(Norway)
Mr. D. Nicolareizis	(Greece)	Count de Tovar	(Portugal)
Mr. H. Andersen	(Iceland)	Mr. M.A. Tiney	(Turkey)
Mr. A. Alessandrini	(Italy)	Sir Christopher Steel	(United Kingdom)
Mr. J.C. Hughes	(United States)		

INTERNATIONAL STAFF

Mr. H. van Vredenburg	(Deputy Secretary General)
Mr. S. Fenoaltea	(Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs)
Mr. L.P. Weicker	(Assistant Secretary General for Production and Logistics)
Mr. R. Sergent	(Assistant Secretary General for Economics and Finance)
Mr. R.D. Coleridge	(Executive Secretary)

ALSO PRESENT

Vice-Admiral R. Dick (Standing Group Liaison Officer)

Lieutenant General Cortlandt van R. Schuyler (SHAPE)

CONTENTS

<u>Item</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
I.	The problem of associating Western Germany with the defence of the West	1
II.	Italo-Yugoslav agreement on Trieste	1
III.	Next meeting of the Council	1
	Annex	2

1. The CHAIRMAN welcomed Mr. Couve de Murville, the new Permanent Representative of France, to his first meeting of the Council.

I. THE PROBLEM OF ASSOCIATING WESTERN GERMANY WITH THE DEFENCE OF THE WEST

Previous Reference: Top Secret Annex to C-R(54)35

Recorded as a Top Secret Annex with limited distribution

II. ITALO-YUGOSLAV AGREEMENT ON TRIESTE

2. The ITALIAN REPRESENTATIVE informed the Council that an agreement on Trieste between Italy and Yugoslavia was to be signed in London at noon. (For full text of his statement, see Annex).

3. The REPRESENTATIVES of the UNITED STATES, the UNITED KINGDOM, FRANCE, GREECE and TURKEY congratulated the Italian Government on the successful conclusion to what was undoubtedly a complicated and difficult problem. The Agreement reflected the greatest credit on the statemanship of both nations; and it was of first class importance to NATO, since it would help to close what might have been a dangerous gap in the defence of that area of the Alliance.

4. The COUNCIL:

took note of the statement by the Italian Representative.

III. NEXT MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

5. The next meeting of the Council was fixed for 9.45 a.m. on Wednesday, the 6th October.

I have been instructed by my Government to inform the Council that an agreement on Trieste has been reached between Italy and Yugoslavia. The texts of the agreements will be signed today in London at twelve o'clock and published in the afternoon.

The instruments consist of a "Memorandum of Agreement" between the Italian, British, American and Yugoslav Governments, and a number of Annexes. The Memorandum of Agreement establishes that, as soon as the text is initialled and the modifications of the partition line foreseen by it put into effect, the Governments of the United Kingdom, the United States and of Yugoslavia will terminate the Military Government in Zones A and B of the Territory.

The Governments of the United Kingdom and of the United States will therefore withdraw their forces from the zone north of the new line of partition and will transfer the administration of such zone to the Italian Government. The Italian Government and the Yugoslav Government will immediately extend their Civil Administration to the zone for which they will hold responsibility.

The Memorandum also contains provisions safeguarding the rights and interests of the citizens of the two zones as well as securing the transit between the two zones and the return of the inhabitants departed therefrom.

Annex I consists of a map establishing the boundaries which Italy had to accept and defining the areas which will be put under the civil administration respectively of Italy and Yugoslavia.

Annex II consists of a "Special Statute" defining in detail the régime to be applied to the ethnical groups of the two zones. The document is inspired by the principles of the Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations, which sanctions particularly individual freedom, the inviolability of the abode and of correspondence, the right of property, the free movement of thought, of conscience, of speech, of gathering and worshipping, as well as jurisdictional guarantees. In the framework of those principles equality of treatment to all the inhabitants of the two zones without distinction, has been specifically provided for.

The Memorandum of Agreement is also accompanied by some letters exchanged between the Italian Ambassador and the Yugoslav Ambassador in London regarding a few questions of immediate application, such as the question of the Free Port of Trieste, the question of cultural institutions and of the establishment of officers in Trieste and at Capodistria for the exercise of Consular functions.

As to the Port of Trieste, the Italian Government shall invite Yugoslavia and other interested Governments to an international conference in order to consult on the measures appropriate to insure, in keeping with the general principles indicated in the Peace Treaty, the widest possible utilisation of the Port of Trieste, in the interest of the Port itself and of international trade.

Finally an exchange of letters between Mr. Harrison, Mr. Thomson and the Italian Ambassador in London regulates the procedure for the transfer of powers from the Allied authorities to the Italian authorities.

Italy has signed the agreement with Yugoslavia, thus ending a strained and dangerous situation in the relations between the two countries, in order:

- (1) to put an end to the anxieties and worries of Italian public opinion - and to stop the speculations of the interested left wing parties;
- (2) to help the settlement of the Adriatic and Balkan situation by assuring peace and understanding in that zone.

In order to reach this agreement, Italy has accepted heavy sacrifices because she is conscious that it was necessary in the interest of the defence of peace to end the long quarrel with her eastern neighbour.

We are confident that such an agreement will prove that with goodwill and understanding even the most troublesome questions can be solved if the superior interests of the defence of the western world are kept in mind by the interested parties. We are also confident that the agreement will strengthen NATO policies.

The Italian Government wishes to express their deep gratitude to the Governments of the United Kingdom and of the United States for their assistance in the efforts that have been developed in order to assure an agreement between Italy and Yugoslavia. Their comprehension of the situation and their help had been the determining factor for the settlement of the Trieste problem.

I shall be glad to keep at the disposal of the Members of the Council, from tomorrow, the text of the agreement and of the annexed documents.