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II. FUTURE BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL

1. The CHAIRMAN said that he thought it would be useful this morning to list briefly the subjects which would come before the Council in the coming weeks. If the Council could agree on such a list all its members would have a better idea of how to proceed.

(i) The first item stemmed from the suggestion made by the Belgian Foreign Minister, and supported by most of his colleagues, "to study the future tasks which face the Alliance". He, the Chairman, believed that it was premature to discuss it as yet in the Council but he proposed to bring it before the Council as soon as possible. He first wished to continue the private conversations with the Belgian Permanent Representative on how his Government envisaged carrying out their proposal. It was evident that some of the fundamental issues of European security might come within the scope of the study proposed by the Belgian Minister. Nevertheless, what the Council had come to call conveniently "East/West Relations" remained in his mind a subject of major interest under continuing review by the Council.

(ii to ix)

2. He invited comments.

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8. The BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVE made three points. Firstly, with regard to what the Chairman had referred to as a Belgian initiative, he recalled that while this had originated from Belgium, it had now become the subject of a decision by the NATO Council in ministerial session. It was therefore for the Council to reflect on how this decision should be implemented; he was of course fully prepared to take part in this reflection.

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13. The CHAIRMAN summing up, noted that there had been comments on five points. Firstly, the Belgian Representative had rightly pointed out that it was a Ministerial decision that the Council should study the future tasks facing the Alliance. Nevertheless he hoped that, as with the proposal for technological co-operation, the initial momentum from the proposing country would continue to help the Council in giving this proposal shape. Secondly, ~~as regards the proposal for an~~ Atlantic Assembly, he would be in touch with both the Netherlands and United States Delegations. This was a delicate question, since some countries considered that it involved constitutional issues. The exchange of views in the Council should be carefully prepared. Thirdly, he thought that the questions of disarmament and a non-dissemination treaty should be kept separate. It was normal procedure for the Council to discuss disarmament before the Geneva Conference reconvened, and he would arrange a date for discussion in the near future. The Council should also as soon as possible have a separate discussion on non-dissemination.

14. Fourthly, he thanked the Belgian Representative for his statement regarding relocation. The International Staff would continue its close co-operation with the Belgian Authorities.

15. Lastly, he would bear in mind the interesting suggestion by the Greek Representative. When the Political Advisers had made their analysis, he would consider whether this should be put on the Agenda of the Council.

16. The COUNCIL:

approved the proposals by the Chairman for future business.

(security classification)