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This document was considered at 8911 Meeting Min 9  
JP(57)127(Final)  
8th November, 1957.

CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE  
JOINT PLANNING STAFF

SACEUR'S EMERGENCY DEFENCE PLAN - 1958

Report by the Joint Planning Staff

The Standing Group has requested<sup>+</sup> comments on SACEUR's Emergency Defence Plan for 1958<sup>@</sup> to reach them not later than 18th November, 1957. These comments will be taken into account by the Standing Group prior to final approval of the Plan.

2. In anticipation of instructions we have examined the Plan. Our report is at Annex.

Recommendation

3. We recommend that if the Chiefs of Staff approve our report they should forward the draft signal at Appendix to Admiral Denny.

(Signed) D.H. FITZGERALD  
J.G. DAVIS  
J.O.C. HAYES.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, S.W.1.

<sup>+</sup> STAND 2155

<sup>@</sup> SACEUR E.D.P. 1-57 as amended by SHAPE/500/57 AG1220 PANDP.

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Annex to JP(57)127(Final)

## SACEUR'S EMERGENCY DEFENCE PLAN - 1958

### AIM

1. The aim of this paper is to examine and report on SACEUR's Emergency Defence Plan for 1958 in order to provide guidance to the United Kingdom representative on the Standing Group.

### THE PLAN

2. SACEUR has stated<sup>①</sup> that there are insufficient changes in the overall concept of capability to justify a completely new Emergency Defence Plan for 1958. He has therefore issued certain amendments to his 1957 Plan.

3. In the covering letter to the amendments he directs his subordinate commanders to improve their position concerning forward strategy plans as rapidly as forces and equipment will allow. At the same time they should take every opportunity to promote evolutionary steps towards the military posture indicated in SACEUR's Minimum Force Study 1958-1963.<sup>2</sup>

### PRINCIPAL CHANGE

④ The only significant change to SACEUR's Emergency Defence Plan for 1958 affects the plans for atomic warfare.

5. A substitute annex deals in greater detail with the policy for planning and controlling the use of atomic weapons, the concept of atomic operations and the tasks of major subordinate regional commanders and air commanders. The responsibilities of those commanders authorised to release and to expend atomic weapons on pre-planned targets have been expanded.

⑥ SACEUR's Atomic Strike Plan now consists of:-

- (a) A Scheduled Plan, directed against the enemy atomic delivery capability within SACEUR's area of responsibility.
- (b) A Counter Radar Programme of automatic attacks against certain radar and control centres.
- (c) An Interdiction Programme against targets whose destruction is likely to have a major impact on the movements of enemy forces.

Thereafter atomic delivery forces will be employed on re-strikes, attacks on additional enemy atomic threats and in support of the land and sea forces.

### OUR VIEWS

⑦ We are generally in agreement with SACEUR's Emergency Defence Plan for 1958, which has taken account of the growing

<sup>①</sup> SACEUR EDP 1-57, as amended  
by SHAPE/500/57 AG 1220 FANDP  
<sup>2</sup> SHAPE/154/57

**TOP SECRET**Annex (Concluded)

nuclear capability of his Command. We have two observations on his force requirements from the United Kingdom.

Canberra Light Bomber Force

8. The Canberra light bomber force was included in the list of atomic delivery forces by SACEUR in his Emergency Defence Plan for 1957, although the force had no nuclear capability. The latter is reflected in SACEUR's Atomic Strike Plan, where the Bomber Command Canberras are allocated to targets suitable for attack only by conventional weapons. We assume that on realising the error in the 1957 EDP SACEUR deleted from his Emergency Defence Plan for 1958 the Canberra light bombers from the list of forces having an atomic delivery capability.

9. It would be unwise to press for the inclusion of this force in the 1958 Emergency Defence Plan list of atomic delivery forces, until the essential aircraft modification programme is completed. This is not scheduled to start until the early part of 1958,

SACEUR's Strategic Reserve

10. In Annex 'A', under SACEUR's Strategic Reserve, the United Kingdom is shown as providing two infantry divisions at M + 90 days. The two Territorial Army infantry divisions, which were originally earmarked for this task, were not declared in the United Kingdom submission to the NATO Annual Review - 1957; nor do they in fact appear in the Standing Group's latest Tentative Assignment of Forces for 1st January, 1958. They should, therefore, be deleted from the Emergency Defence Plan.

CONCLUSION

11. We conclude that SACEUR's Emergency Defence Plan for 1958 is acceptable, subject to the deletion of two United Kingdom infantry divisions from his Strategic Reserve.

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