

1978

TO : the Secretary General

cc : Mr. F.C. Menne  
Mr. A.P. Hockaday ✓

From : L. Thiébault,  
Acting Secretary of Sub-Group 3

LT(67)36

NATO SECRETFUTURE TASKS OF THE ALLIANCE - SUB-GROUP 3

The Sub-Group on General Defensive Policy of the Alliance, chaired by Mr. J. Kitchen, Acting in the place of Mr. Foy Kohler, met in the morning of 18th April. ✓ The next meeting will be held on 16th May.

An outline prepared by the Rapporteur ✓ as a basis for discussion was accepted as a framework for the interim report to be submitted in June and for the report to be submitted in December.

It is to be expected that following upon the next meeting an interim report can be submitted in the last days of May.

A few saliant points in the discussion

Stress should be placed on the future (and also present) evolution of NATO defence policy.

Attention should be paid more to the results expected from the future defence policy of the Alliance than to its future military posture. (It might also not be necessary to consider in detail the military posture of the Eastern Bloc). The question was raised whether the study should be centered upon overall NATO defence policy or upon the integrated defence policy agreed to by the 14.

Present assumptions, i.e. strategic concept, nuclear policy, should not necessarily be considered as valid in this prospective study.

The study should consider the effects of NATO defence policy upon the entire NATO area and not only upon the European Zone.

Confusion between political detente and military detente should be avoided.

Reference to future political settlement in Europe might be considered as somewhat outside the scope of the activities of the Sub-Group.

Duplication of work between Sub-Group 3 and DPC/DPWG, MC. and NPG should be avoided. Duplication of efforts between Sub-Group 3 and Sub-Group 4 is not considered as harmful.

18th April, 1967