

OPENING STATEMENT FOR THE SECRETARY GENERAL
TO BE MADE IN THE COUNCIL - 15th FEBRUARY 1967

Resolution on Future Tasks of the Alliance
of 16th December 1966

You may wish to say:

May I, first of all, warmly welcome the distinguished guests who have to come to attend this meeting of the Council:

The presence of so many guests from capitals underlines the far-reaching importance of the subject we are going to discuss, not only for the Alliance itself but also for its political action in the world.

We are here this morning to discuss the ways and means how to put into effect the Resolution adopted by Ministers on the future tasks of the Alliance. This implies not only the discussion -- in terms of the Resolution -- of "the most appropriate possible procedures for fulfilling" the mandate given to the Council, but also, it would seem to me, the subjects which should be identified and analysed in the course of this exercise.

Both on the substance and on procedures the Council has before it a paper from the United Kingdom Delegation and a paper which I myself circulated to Delegations (PO/67/89). ✓ For my part, I have nothing to add to what I suggested in my paper and it seems to me that these papers, to which others perhaps may be added, form an adequate basis for the Council's discussion. Whether or not we can arrive today at certain decisions will be revealed by our discussion. Since it seems appropriate that the initiator of this study should explain first to the Council his further ideas and conceptions, may I ask Monsieur Harmel to initiate the discussion? Mr. Thompson may then wish to speak on his Delegation's paper.

OPENING STATEMENT - COUNCIL MEETING 15.2.1967

Resolution on Future Tasks of the Alliance of
16th December 1966.

May I, first of all, warmly welcome the distinguished guests who have come to attend this meeting of the Council:

Mr. Harnel from Belgium,

Mr. Sølvhøj from Denmark,

M. de La Harpe from France,

Mr. Schütz from Germany,

Mr. Lupis from Italy,

Mr. de Ranitz from the Netherlands,

Mr. Jacobsen from Norway,

Mr. Menemencoglu from Turkey,

Mr. George Thomson from the UK,

and Mr. Eugene Rostow from the US.

The presence of so many guests from capitals underlines the far-reaching importance of the subject we are going to discuss for the future of our Alliance.

We are here this morning to examine the ways and means of putting into effect the Resolution adopted by Ministers on the future tasks of the Alliance. This implies first of all the definition - in terms of the Resolution - of "the most appropriate possible procedures for fulfilling" the mandate given to the Council, and then, at the appropriate moment, of the subjects which should be identified and analysed in the course of this exercise.

Both on the substance and on procedures the Council has before it a paper from the United Kingdom Delegation and a paper which I myself circulated to Delegations (PO/67/89). For my part, I have nothing to add for the time being to what I suggested in my paper and it seems to me that these papers, to which others perhaps may be added, may offer a useful starting

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point for the Council's discussion. Whether or not we can arrive today at certain decisions will be revealed by our discussion. Since it seems appropriate that the initiator of this study should explain first to the Council his further ideas and conceptions, may I ask Monsieur Harmel to initiate the discussion?

Mr. Thomson may then wish to speak on his Delegation's paper.