

FUTURE TASKS OF THE ALLIANCEWorking Paper

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I submit herewith, as a contribution to the discussions and decisions of the Special Group at its forthcoming meeting of Monday, 13th March 1967, the following draft work programme. This programme takes into account the points made in discussions of the Special Group on 6th March and in the various papers submitted by certain Delegations on that occasion or subsequently.

I. SUBJECTS

1. Developments in the foreign policy of the USSR and East European countries; their consequences for the Alliance; the impact of the Alliance upon the foreign policy of the USSR and East European countries.
2. General political aims of the Alliance in East-West relations: Allied views of the purpose and practice of detente. European security and the German problem: the nature of a European settlement; the role of bilateral and multilateral diplomacy in the quest for peace.
3. Free Europe and its specific contribution to the aims of the Alliance: possibilities of inter-European co-operation within the Alliance; possibilities of strengthening the bonds between Alliance countries generally; the ideological basis and unity of the Alliance.
4. General defensive policy of the Alliance: evolution of collective and regional security; principles governing the strategy of the Alliance and the level and deployment of forces; effects of various proposals - arms control and disarmament; balanced reduction of forces; nuclear arrangements - on the balance of power. *Probing }*
5. Developments in regions outside the Treaty area, their effects on the interests and positions of Allied countries and on their responsibilities towards world order generally.

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6. The consultative process in NATO (political, military, nuclear); past suggestions and present achievements; its range, purpose and limitations; the problem of commitment.
7. The image of the Alliance in a sociologically changing public opinion: presentation of the role and action of the Alliance, including the present meaning of key terms (detente, threat, balance of power); the presentation of the present study; possible association of outside organizations and individuals, including Parliamentarians.

Remarks: The subjects indicate a broad field of work for each sub-group. Once the sub-groups are constituted, they may themselves refine the definition of the subjects and, if they so desire, formulate them as questions.

II. ORGANIZATION OF STUDIES

The Special Group, composed of Government representatives and presided by the Secretary General, is responsible on a continuing basis for all aspects of the exercise. To carry out its task, the Group should be composed of members who are well informed of the problems currently before the Alliance; they may be assisted by experts from capitals as required. The members of the Group should draw up a general work programme and follow the progress of the various studies. It will be their particular concern to co-ordinate these various studies with each other and with the normal work of the Alliance. To achieve these ends, the Group will meet whenever the Chairman or one of its members considers it necessary.

of sub-groups
It is, I believe, generally agreed that a number of sub-groups will be created to work on each of the above-mentioned subjects. These sub-groups are open to all members of the Alliance and to the Secretary General and/or his representatives. To facilitate their work, it is suggested that the presentation of each subject be entrusted to a national Delegation.

To make this initial presentation, the national Delegation concerned should select a person who is particularly well informed of the subject in question and preferably well-known. It is of course understood that the working document presented by the rapporteur will commit neither the sub-group nor the Special Group. Delegations and the Secretary General may submit to the sub-group such documents as they consider useful contributions.

The sub-groups may put such questions as appear necessary to outside organizations or individuals.

The representatives in each of the sub-groups will not commit their Governments at this stage of the exercise. After having fully discussed their subjects, the sub-groups will decide about the drafting of their reports and will approve them before submission to the Special Group. Finally, it is agreed that no records shall be kept of these meetings.

III. INTERIM REPORT TO MINISTERS

In order to prepare the interim report to be submitted to Ministers in June, the Special Group should meet in the course of May at a high political level and examine the progress achieved and, if possible, indicate the elements to be incorporated in this report. To be useful, this meeting of the Special Group should last more than one day.

However, in view of the time available, some of the studies may not be concluded before the June meeting of Ministers. If this would prove to be true, both the synthesis of these studies and the definition of the future tasks of the Alliance will be the principal objects of our attention in the second half of the year. In these circumstances, the Special Group may feel that the interim report to be submitted to Ministers in June should have the character of a brief progress report, to which may possibly be annexed such studies as may be available.

Manlio Brosio.

13th March, 1967