

*Working Group 2
Inter-Allied Relations*Sub-Group 2NATO CONFIDENTIAL*M*

In the meeting of Monday, 17th April, it was emphasised, especially by the Chairman, that it is difficult to avoid overlapping in the work of the different sub-groups. No sub-group could strictly limit its competence to the subject assigned to it. It will be necessary, therefore, to have co-ordination through meetings of the Rapporteurs with the Secretary General.

Mr. Bowie made two points. First, that we have to see the problems in a perspective that goes far beyond 1969, and secondly, that the relationship between the American and European allies should be considered in general terms and not only within the framework of the Alliance. The first remark provoked an intervention by the Danish Permanent Representative, who said that it would be difficult for his country to take engagements beyond 1969. The majority felt that the fact that the Alliance should go beyond 1969 was a kind of "préalable" to the whole exercise. Another point of some importance was made by Ambassador Birgi when he said that in his opinion the Alliance could not be considered without the Organization, a point which was stressed by Mr. Spaak as a fundamental one.
