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MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: NATO Action Program - Review of the Komer Report (U)

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(1) Ambassador Komer's report on a proposed NATO Action Program, forwarded by you on 11 April, is indeed impressive and its comprehensive nature justifies a response which is equal in thoughtful analysis. Obviously, in this short period of time neither I nor the Army Staff has had an opportunity to completely absorb all of the details and recommendations outlined in the report. However, in view of the NATO Defense Planning Committee meeting scheduled for May, I will offer the following observations.

(2) In June I will reply to your tasking of 1 March to analyze possible Army buys of European equipment in the near and more distant timeframe. The more quickly we can signal our seriousness about widening the "two-way street" the better. However, any incorporation of European-produced equipment will begin to erode a traditional "Buy-American" approach that has prevented meaningful steps towards the goals of NATO standardization.

(3) Some of the Army's initiatives in recent years to develop the "two-way street" concept have had difficulties (i.e., the Main Battle Tank-70 program which failed, and the current AEGIS Air Defense System which has suffered cost/growth problems). It is imperative that we develop the procedures necessary to execute successful international development/production programs, and use the painful lessons of the past to do so. We simply must generate more enthusiasm for joint efforts on the part of the Congress, industry, and indeed, the Army itself.

(4) Ambassador Komer's report should form the foundation of future Alliance cooperation on the part of the U.S. military. Although there are some short-term recommendations which will be appropriate for the meeting in May and others which may follow in the near future, the adoption of a similar "Manufacture Document" by the Alliance as a whole would greatly facilitate implementation of meaningful

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concepts of armor in the long run. Accordingly, it would be  
desirable to have a significant portion of the armor report  
discuss the various armor concepts which are being developed  
in the light of the basic premises in this report  
and the concepts of the various U.S. Army proposals  
to buy European equipment later this summer, as well as  
the effect of the evolution of operational doctrine

10. In the initial time available for comment, we were  
unable to make a detailed examination of the armor  
report and the various armor concepts which are  
being developed. These are being developed in  
conjunction with the armor report and are being  
forwarded as they are developed.

Very truly yours,  
Walter D. Wines, Jr.

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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN  
ACTION PROPOSALS TO REVISE NATO'S DEFENSE POSTURE

(a) The Army strongly concurs with Ambassador Komer that US initiatives and leadership are indispensable to the concrete and timely action needed to improve NATO's defense posture. Our recommendations for implementation of this report are given below.

(b) The present capability to create common requirements for a common development within the Alliance is poor at best. Standardization/standardization within the Alliance can be enhanced by establishing a regular procedure for developing common weapons requirements. The military agency for standardization (MS), as the agent of the Military Committee, should assume the responsibility within NATO for the development of common operational concepts, tactical doctrine, and their translation into broad operational requirements. This proposal would place the Major War/Comms (MNC's) who ultimately will be required to develop these concepts and doctrine in a better position to influence the efforts required for the work of the Conference of Nations, Armaments Directorates (CND) and the ability to translate operational requirements into definitive systems characteristics for consideration in research and development. As it stands now, the overlap in functions between the CND and MS is not the ability of the user (MNC) to influence the development of systems and systems. We recommend that this proposal be submitted to the Defense Planning Committee (DPC) at the Spring Conference and that we attempt to persuade the DPC to permit this proposal within the CND.

(c) The Army is concerned that the planning/consultation among the major powers for North Atlantic consumption is both minimal to securing sufficient stocks in order to draw down a 100 day forward planning rate for a 100 day war. Current planning is based on a 100 day forward planning rate. Recent analyses have shown the Army's demand for starting ammunition stocks will require an average of 300 + R/T/D for the initial phase of the battle. Currently, the figure of 100 R/T/D appears grossly inadequate when considering the potential loss of forward stockpiles. The Army's demand for the war should be strongly articulated in the initial planning stages and should be consistently maintained throughout the planning process. The Army's demand for starting ammunition stocks should be consistently maintained throughout the planning process. The Army's demand for starting ammunition stocks should be consistently maintained throughout the planning process.

(d) Arms control system development planning can be improved by increasing the development of SAM systems and other development for an action plan. The development of SAM systems and other development for an action plan. The development of SAM systems and other development for an action plan. The development of SAM systems and other development for an action plan. The development of SAM systems and other development for an action plan.

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