

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: SEP 14 2018

SEC DEF DISTRIBUTION	
SEC DEF	
DEPSEC	
MH/ASST	
MR. WEST	
CICS	
ISA	
CEB	X
CABLE CH	
FILE	

~~TOP SECRET~~

1 Oct 75 20 04z

ZCZCDKAS39  
OO YBKDOA  
DE YFZAAK #0004 2741030  
ZNY MNSH

O 011025Z OCT 75 ZYH ZFF6/3  
FM LAURENCE J CEGRE DEFENSE ADVISOR US MISSION TO NATO  
BRUSSELS BELGIUM  
TO THE HONORABLE MALCOLM R CURRIE DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE RESEARCH  
& ENGINEERING THE PENTAGON WASHINGTON DC  
INFO THE HONORABLE ROBERT ELCSWORTH ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
(ISA) THE PENTAGON WASHINGTON DC  
MAJOR GENERAL JOHN A WICKHAM MILITARY ASSISTANT TO THE  
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE THE PENTAGON WASHINGTON DC  
ZEN

~~TOP SECRET~~

SUBJ: BIG FOUR NAD MEETING IN WASHINGTON

1. AT SECDEF'S MEETING WITH FRENCH MOD BOURGES AND HIS COLLEAGUES ON AFTERNOON OF MONDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER, DELPECH AND BOURGES HIMSELF STRONGLY EXPRESSED THE GOVERNMENT OF FRANCE'S CONCLUSION (A) TO PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY AND IMMEDIATELY IN THE NEWLY EMERGING NATO STANDARDIZATION INITIATIVE, AND (B) TO PROPOSE AT THE NEXT MEETING OF BIG FOUR NAD GROUP THAT THAT GROUP CONSTITUTE ITSELF AS THE VEHICLE FOR CONSIDERING QUESTIONS RELATED TO THE NEW INITIATIVE. DELPECH AND BOURGES STATED THE LATER CONCLUSION FOUR TIMES DURING THE COURSE OF THE SESSION, OBVIOUSLY TRYING TO ELICIT A CONCURRENCE FROM SECDEF.

2. SECDEF RESISTED CONCURRING, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT EXPLICITLY ATTACK THE FRENCH PROPOSAL. HE STATED, AMONG OTHER THINGS (A) THAT IN GENERAL THE "DESIGN COMMUNITY" TENDED TO HAVE TOO MUCH INFLUENCE ON THE SELECTION OF WEAPONS SYSTEMS, AND THAT IT WAS THEREFORE IMPORTANT TO RETAIN CONTROL OVER THE DESIGNERS SO AS TO AVOID "HOBBY SHOPPING" AND GOLD-PLATING, (B) THAT THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL (ON WHICH FRANCE SITS) WAS ALREADY LAUNCHED INTO THE STANDARDIZATION ARENA, (C) THAT WE MUST AVOID OFFENDING SENSIBILITIES OF THE OTHER ELEVEN NATO MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE SUCH AS ITALY WHO COULD PLAY A ROLE IN ALL THIS.

3. EVENTS ON SECDEF'S TRIP AND HERE IN BRUSSELS DURING RECENT WEEKS HAVE UNCOVERED SOME ALLIED OPINION, ESPECIALLY AMONG THE BRITISH, AND TO A LESSER EXTENT THE GERMANS, IN FAVOR OF SIMPLY USING THE CNAD AS THE VEHICLE FOR THE EMERGING STANDARDIZATION INITIATIVE. U.S. POSITION CONVEYED IN INSTRUCTIONS TO US HERE FAVORS A SPECIAL (AND PERHAPS AD HOC AND TEMPORARY) STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE NAC TO START MOVEMENT TOWARD THE HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL AGREEMENTS ON PRINCIPLES THAT WILL PROBABLY CONSTITUTE THE FIRST STAGE OF PROGRESS. THERE IS SOME FLEXIBILITY IN THAT POSITION, BUT I DO NOT BELIEVE THERE IS ENOUGH FLEXIBILITY TO ACCEPT CNAD AS THE PRIME INITIAL VEHICLE, AND ALMOST CERTAINLY NOT ENOUGH TO ACCEPT THE BIG FOUR NADS AS SUCH A VEHICLE.

4. IF I MAY, LET ME ADVANCE A FEW SUGGESTIONS YOU MAY WANT TO

WH 10 400

1 Oct 75

18-M-2076

J: USNATO

"MAD"

X. ~~Home~~ 333

Page determined to be Unclassified  
Reviewed Chief, RDD, WHS  
IAW EO 13526, Section 3.5  
Date: SEP 14 2018

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CONSIDER BACK THERE. FIRST, ASK GENERAL DICK BOWMAN TO GIVE YOU A MORE DETAILED READOUT ON SECDEF'S TRIP THAN I HAVE HERE. SECOND, GET ON SECDEF'S CALENDAR AND TALK OVER WITH HIM THIS NAD BIG FOUR BUSINESS. THIRD, SEE IF SECDEF WILL AGREE TO SEE THE NAD BIG FOUR AS A GROUP DURING THEIR WASHINGTON MEETING NEXT WEEK. FOURTH, SOME TIME LATER THIS WEEK GIVE GARDNER TUCKER A CALL AND ASK HIM WHERE HE STANDS ON HOW AND HOW NOT TO PROCEED DURING THE WEEKS AHEAD.  
S. WARM REGARDS, AS ALWAYS.  
GDS 31 DEC 81

SLO NOTET DELIVER DURING NORMAL DUTY HOURS  
#8888

NNNN

DECLASSIFIED IN FULL  
Authority: EO 13526  
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS  
Date: SEP 14 2018

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office of the Secretary of Defense  
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS  
Date: 19 SEP 2018 Authority: EO 13526 + 5 U.S.C. § 552  
Declassify: X Deny in Full: \_\_\_\_\_  
Declassify in Part: \_\_\_\_\_  
Reason: \_\_\_\_\_  
MDR: 18 -M- 2076