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STATE FOR HARTMAN AND VEST; DEFENSE FOR ASD/ISA
MCAULIFFE; CJCS GEN. BROWN; SECARMY HOFFMAN; SECNAVY
MIDDENDORF; SEC AIR FORCE REED; DTACS SHRIVER

E. O. 11652:

TAGS: FR, UK, MPOL, NATO, GW

SUBJECT: MEETING OF FRENCH, FRG, UK AND U.S. ARMAMENTS
DIRECTORS, PARIS, 21 JULY, 1976

THE FOLLOWING IS A MESSAGE FROM DR. CURRIE (DDRE):

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Authority: EO 13526
Chief, Records & Declass Div, WHS
Date: NOV 02 2018

Office of the Secretary of Defense
Chief, RDD, ESD, WHS
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1. BEGIN SUMMARY: THIS MESSAGE REPORTS EFFORTS TO ADVANCE COOPERATION AND STANDARDIZATION IN THE AREA OF WEAPONS DEVELOPMENT. ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS AGREED TO SUPPORT 105MM TANK GUN IMPROVED AMMUNITION AND EARLY ADOPTION OF 120MM GUN; TO COORDINATE STUDIES ON NEXT GENERATION SAM'S; TO CONSIDER ADOPTING JTIDS ARCHITECTURE WITH ALLIED PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPMENTS; TO CONDUCT A STOCK-TAKING OF GUN CALIBERS WITH A VIEW TO ACTION IN CNAD OR HAS TO IMPROVE STANDARDIZATION; TO SPEED UP WORK IN CNAD IFF STUDY GROUP AND DEVELOP BASIS FOR DECISIONS; TO EXCHANGE DATA ON MUNITIONS SAFETY STANDARDS AND SEEK COMPATIBILITY; TO SERIOUSLY CONSIDER US OFFER TO PERMIT COPRODUCTION OF COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY EQUIPMENT AND TO PRESS FOR ADEQUATE COMMUNICATIONS INTERFACE EQUIPMENT; TO ENFORCE IMPLEMENTATION OF STANAGS AND PROVIDE PERIODIC STATUS REPORTS; AND TO RECOMMEND TO THEIR GOVERNMENTS THAT THE AD HOC GROUP ON INTEROPERABILITY BE EXTENDED FOR ANOTHER YEAR. ADDRESSEES ARE CAUTIONED THAT THESE MEETINGS HAVE NO FORMAL STATUS IN NATO, BUT ARE IMPORTANT IN RESOLVING IMPASSES AND SPEEDING WORK IN NATO FORA. NO REFERENCE SHOULD BE MADE TO THESE MEETINGS IN PRESENCE OF NON-PARTICIPATING ALLIES. END SUMMARY.

2. TANK GUN. DR. CURRIE (DD R AND E) STATED U.S. POSITION THAT, WHILE ALL FOUR COUNTRIES ARE CONSIDERING A 120MM GUN FOR THE 1980'S, THE IMPROVED 105MM GUN AMMUNITION FULLY MEETS THE CURRENT THREAT AND SHOULD BE ADOPTED FOR THE MANY 105MM GUNS WHICH WILL NOT PHASE OUT UNTIL AS LATE AS 1990. DELPECH (FRANCE) AGREED AND ~~SAID FRANCE WAS IN PROCESS OF ADOPTING U.S.~~ IMPROVED AMMUNITION; THERE IS AGREEMENT ON 120MM FOR THE FUTURE BUT QUESTION WAS WHETHER IT SHOULD BE RIFLED OR SMOOTH BORE. FRG AND FRANCE HAVE NOW AGREED ON INTER-OPERABLE 120MM AMMUNITION; AND FRANCE NOW BELIEVES THREAT IS INCREASING FASTER THAN EXPECTED AND 120MM GUN WILL BE NEEDED IN NEAR FUTURE. EBERHARDT (FRG) SAID HE COULD NOT AGREE THAT 105MM IMPROVED AMMUNITION FULLY MEETS CURRENT THREAT. CURRIE SAID U.S. WOULD ADOPT STANDARD 120MM GUN AND AMMUNITION IF FRANCE, FRG AND UK COULD AGREE ON WHICH GUN OR AMMUNITION SHOULD BE THE STANDARD.

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3. SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILES. TWO BILATERAL STUDY EFFORTS ARE IN PROGRESS ON NEXT GENERATION SAM'S. FRANCE AND THE UK HAVE ONE AND THE U.S. AND FRG HAVE ANOTHER. MEANWHILE THE CNAD TRI-SERVICE GROUP (AC290) IS CONSIDERING THE SAME PROBLEM. PRINCIPALS AGREED TO COORDINATE STUDIES AND PROVIDE RESULTS TO TRI-SERVICE GROUP. U.S. PROPOSED A SCHEDULE CALLING FOR AN EXCHANGE OF WORKING PAPERS IN THE FALL. FRG HEP PROVIDED A STATUS REPORT ON THE FRG-U.S. BILATERAL STUDY WHICH IS ANALYZING THREE ALTERNATIVES: REPLACING NIKE WITH SAM D; REPLACING NIKE AND HAWK WITH SAM D; MODIFYING PRESENT SAM D DESIGN TO IMPROVE COST EFFECTIVENESS. US-FRG ARE STUDYING LONGER RANGE, MORE COSTLY OPTIONS THAN THE UK-FRANCE. ALL AGREED THAT THE TWO STUDIES TAKEN TOGETHER SHOULD PROVIDE GOOD BASIS FOR INFORMED DECISIONS.

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ANSWERED IN THE PAST BUT WOULD LIKE A FORMAL U.S. PROPOSAL IN WRITING AT SEPTEMBER MEETING. CURRIE AGREED TO PROVIDE SUCH A PROPOSAL AT THAT TIME.

EBERHARDT SAID THAT THE FRG FEELS THAT STC SHOULD MAKE A COMPARISON BETWEEN JTIDS AND MACS. CURRIE SAID JTIDS ASSETS ARE TOTALLY COMMITTED DURING NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS AND QUESTIONED DESIRABILITY/NEED FOR SUCH TESTS. THEREFORE DECISION SHOULD REST ON ESSENTIAL NEED FOR COMMON ARCHITECTURE RATHER THAN ON COMPETITIVE TESTS. U.S. HAS A SYSTEM WHICH WILL WORK; THEREFORE ALLIES SHOULD CONSIDER ADOPTING JTIDS ARCHITECTURE. THERE IS PLENTY OF ROOM FOR NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS THAT ARE DIFFERENT BUT COMPATIBLE. U.S. OFFERED AT LAST CNAD COPRODUCTION OF U.S. EQUIPMENT ON FAVORABLE TERMS. OTHER TERMINALS FOR FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, NAVAL VESSELS AND ARMY MANPACKS WILL HAVE TO BE DEVELOPED IN FUTURE YEARS. ALL ALLIES COULD PARTICIPATE IN THESE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS. UK AND FRANCE WELCOMED U.S. PROPOSITION. FRG STILL HAS RESERVATIONS BASED ON FACT THAT THEY ARE WORKING ON MACS WHICH IS NOT COMPATIBLE, BUT MACS IS NOT AS FAR ALONG AS JTIDS. ALL AGREED THAT SPECIAL AWACS MEETING MIGHT BE NEEDED IN NOVEMBER BEFORE MINISTERIAL TO FORMULATE FINAL PROPOSALS.

5. STANDARDIZATION OF GUNS AND AMMUNITION. EBERHARDT SAID THAT THERE COULD BE A NEED FOR A FOUR POWER'S WORKING GROUP TO STUDY EARLIER U.S. PROPOSAL FOR STANDARDIZATION OF GUN AMMUNITION ON 5MM INCREMENTS. WORK IN ARMY ARMAMENTS GROUP NEEDS ASSISTANCE AND DOES NOT COVER GUNS OF OTHER SERVICES. ALL AGREED THAT A FOUR POWER STOCK-TAKING IN THIS AREA COULD HELP DETERMINE NECESSARY FUTURE ACTIONS. DEPUTIES WERE CHARGED WITH REPORTING BEFORE THE NEXT CNAD MEETING.

6. IFF. CORNFORD AND CURRIE ARGUED THAT CNAD WORK WAS NOT PROGRESSING BECAUSE OF SOME NOT CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD FRG RESISTANCE. EBERHARDT SAID FRG REPRESENTATIVE IS SO FRUSTRATED THAT HE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY AND THAT IFF STUDY GROUP SHOULD STOP ARGUING OVER TERMS OF REFERENCE AND PROCEED WITH WORK. FRG CONCERN WAS THAT OTHER ALLIES IN STUDY GROUP WERE SEEKING FUNDING FOR SPECIAL STUDIES OR DEVELOPMENT WHICH FRG DID NOT WISH

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TO AUTHORIZE AT THIS TIME. U.S., FRANCE AND UK AGREED THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO FUNDING FOR TECHNICAL WORK IN THIS SURVEY STUDY WHICH IS ONLY DESIGNED TO PROVIDE AN INITIAL BASE FOR FURTHER DECISIONS. WITH THIS UNDERSTANDING ALL AGREED TO GET ON WITH THE WORK OF THIS GROUP.

7. AIRCRAFT LANDING SYSTEMS. EBERHARDT RAISED QUESTION OF COMPATIBILITY BETWEEN CIVIL AND MILITARY DECISIONS ON NEW LANDING SYSTEMS. ALL AGREED TO LOOK INTO PROBLEM AND TO SEEK A COMMON SOLUTION.

8. NAVSTAR. CURRIE DISTRIBUTED THE DOD POLICY ON NAVSTAR AND EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF ALLIED PARTICIPATION AT PROPER POINT.

9. COMMON WEAPON SAFETY STANDARDS. ALL AGREED THAT STANDARDS SHOULD BE EXCHANGED AND STUDIED TO DETERMINE HOW THEY COULD BE MADE COMPATIBLE. DEPUTIES WERE CHARGED WITH FOLLOWING UP.

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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0617
INFO RUDTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 2500
RUFNPS/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 5295
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~~SECTION 03 OF 04 BONN 12300~~

10. INTEROPERABILITY OF TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS

NATO ASYG LABERGE PARTICIPATED IN INTEROPERABILITY PORTIONS OF THE MEETING. CURRIE DELIVERED A PREPARED STATEMENT EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF INTEROPERABLE TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS AND ESPECIALLY THE NEED FOR COMPATIBLE SECURE VOICE EQUIPMENT. HE OFFERED TO LET THE ALLIES CO-PRODUCE COMPONENTS OF THE TENLEY AND VINSON SECURE VOICE SYSTEMS WITH NO R AND D CHANGES. DELPECH SAID THE US PROPOSAL WAS INTERESTING AND IN LINE WITH SPIRIT OF THE ALLIANCE. DELPECH AND CORNFORD SAID EACH ALLY WOULD MAKE AVAILABLE ITS TACTICAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS TO ALLIES BUT NONE WOULD THROW OUT THEIR OWN SYSTEM, THEREFORE INTERFACE BOXES MUST BE THE SOLUTION. CURRIE SAID THAT EVEN WITH INTERFACE

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BOXES YOU COULD NOT COMMUNICATE WITHOUT COMPATIBLE
SECURE VOICE.

LABERGE SAID CNAD SHOULD ATTEMPT TO FIND OUT IF
THERE IS ANY WAY TO GET TOGETHER AND BUILD A COMMON
SYSTEM WITH EQUITABLE INDUSTRIAL SHARING. CURRENT IN-
TERFACE BOX SOLUTION INVOLVES LINK-TO-LINK ENCRYPTION.
EACH COMMUNICATION MUST BE DECODED AND REENCRYPTED
AT EACH CONNECTING POINT. THE WAR COULD BE OVER
BEFORE THE MESSAGE WAS DELIVERED. CURRIE PROPOSAL
COULD SOLVE THIS PROBLEM.

UK REP (MACLIN) SAID ALLIES MUST PROVIDE INTER-
FACE BOXES IN PROPER NUMBERS AND MUST WORK ON
COMPATIBLE ARCHITECTURE FOR FUTURE GENERATION SYSTEMS.
EUROCOM HAS REACHED BASIC AGREEMENTS ON THESE FUTURE
PARAMETERS AND IS NOW WORKING WITH US TO REACH
COMMON AGREEMENT. DR. CURRIE'S PROPOSAL FOR SECURE
VOICE CO-PRODUCTION COULD PROVE AN IMPORTANT STEP
FORWARD IN LETTING ALLIES COMMUNICATE SECURELY THROUGH
INTERFACE BOXES. UK AND US ARE ALREADY WELL ALONG
TOWARD COMPATIBILITY AND OTHERS SHOULD CONSIDER THIS
OFFER.

EVERHARDT SAID THESE ISSUES HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED
FOR YEARS, BUT NEVER WITH ANY CHANCE OF MINISTERIAL
SUPPORT. TODAY WE HAVE THE BEST CHANCE FOR POLITICAL
SUPPORT, AND WE MUST SUCCEED NOW OR QUIT TRYING. WE
MUST NOW GIVE ORDERS THAT EACH NATION PROVIDE THE
NECESSARY INTERFACE BOXES. AD HOC GROUP MUST BRING
THIS HOME TO MINISTERS. CURRIE AGREED THAT ALLIES
MUST ALLOCATE RESOURCES TO PROVIDE INTERFACE BOXES
AS AN IMPORTANT STEP FORWARD, BUT THEY ALSO MUST
HAVE COMPATIBLE SECURE VOICE AND SHOULD SERIOUSLY
CONSIDER US PROPOSAL ALONG WITH OTHER PROPOSALS.
CURRIE SAID HE WOULD INTRODUCE PROPOSAL INTO WORKING
GROUP AND OTHER NATO FORA. CORNFORD SAID ALLIES SHOULD
LOOK VERY CAREFULLY AT WHAT THE US PROPOSED. DELPECH
SAID HIS REACTION WAS FAVORABLE, BUT WOULD LIKE
DETAILED PROPOSAL FOR STUDY. CURRIE AGREED TO PROVIDE.

11. INTEROPERABILITY OF COMBAT AIRCRAFT

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FRENCH REP REPORTED THAT WORKING GROUP HAS DIFFICULT PROBLEMS WITH AIR-TO-AIR MISSILES AND NEW GUIDANCE METHODS SUCH AS LASER SYSTEMS WHICH ARE TAILORED TO PARTICULAR AIRCRAFT. CORNFORD SAID THAT THE ONLY WAY AROUND THAT TYPE OF DIFFICULTY WAS TO DO MORE WORK IN CHAD SO THAT INTEROPERABILITY COULD BE PROVIDED IN DEVELOPMENT PHASE. CURRIE AGREED AND SAID US AIR FORCE WAS ALREADY WORKING TO MAKE NEW GUIDANCE SYSTEMS COMPATIBLE WITH EUROPEAN AIRCRAFT, BUT IN MEANTIME AD HOC WORKING GROUP SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON PRACTICAL STEPS THAT COULD PROVIDE AT LEAST A DEGREE OF INTEROPERABILITY AT AN EARLY DATE. LARANGE REPORTED THAT THE WORKING GROUP REJECTED THE PROPOSAL THAT ALLIES AGREE ON COMMON PIN CONNECTORS, VOLTAGES, ETC. ON GROUNDS THAT EACH COUNTRY HAD ITS OWN WAY OF DOING THINGS. ALL AGREED TO RECONSIDER THESE PROPOSALS.

12. INTEROPERABILITY OF AIRCRAFT FUELS

FRENCH REP REPORTED NO PROBLEM WITH ARMY OR NAVY FUELS. ON AIRCRAFT FUELS, HOWEVER, AIRCRAFT MUST BE MODIFIED TO USE F-34 CIVIL JET FUEL AND THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM IS THE F-16 AND ITS F-100 ENGINE WHICH WERE

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P 221730Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0618
INFO RUDTC/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 2581
RUFNPS/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 5296
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~~SECTION 04 OF 04 BONN 12388~~

DESIGNED FOR F-40 FUEL. CURRIE REPORTED THAT THE US
AIR FORCE HAS BEEN DIRECTED TO CONDUCT THE NECESSARY
STUDIES AND EXPERIMENTS TO DETERMINE WHAT MUST BE
DONE TO THE F-100 ENGINE TO PERMIT IT TO USE F-34 FUEL.

13. IMPLEMENTATION OF STANAGS

LABERGE SAID NATO MUST REMOVE THE NO-RETROFIT
CLAUSE WHICH ENCOURAGES NATIONS TO DO NOTHING. UK
ARGUED THAT THERE MUST BE SOME PROVISION FOR NATIONS
TO REPORT IMPLEMENTATION. EBERHARDT SAID IT IS EASY TO
INSURE IMPLEMENTATION OF STANAGS. FRG HAS ORDERED THAT
ALL STANAGS APPROVED BY FRG MUST BE IMPLEMENTED, AND
THEY ARE NOW IMPLEMENTED. HE SAID ALLIES CAN ALSO BRING
TO EACH OTHER'S ATTENTION ANY CASE IN WHICH THEY
BELIEVE A STANAG HAS NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED; CURRIE ASKED

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FOR A REPORT TO MINISTERS ONCE A YEAR ON STATUS OF COMPLIANCE. ALL AGREED.

14. FUTURE OF NAC AD HOC GROUP ON INTEROPERABILITY

DELPECH SAID THAT WHILE DEPUTIES HAD RECOMMENDED THAT AD HOC GROUP SHOULD TERMINATE BECAUSE OF DUPLICATION WITH CNAD, HE FELT THAT THERE WAS ENOUGH IMPORTANT WORK TO BE DONE THAT WOULD NOT INVOLVE DUPLICATION AND THAT GROUP SHOULD BE EXTENDED FOR AT LEAST A YEAR. CORNFORD SAID THE UK WAS FLEXIBLE ON THE AD HOC GROUP, BUT WANTED TO BE SURE IT AVOIDED DUPLICATION OF OTHER WORK. CURNIE AGREED SAYING THAT AD HOC GROUP COULD PLAY A VALUABLE ROLE IN FOCUSING ON SELECTED PROBLEM AREAS. EBERHARDT SAID HE HAD SOME DOUBTS. AD HOC GROUP'S VALUE STEMS FROM POLITICAL VISIBILITY, BUT IT HAS LITTLE TECHNICAL CAPABILITY SINCE IT IS COMPOSED OF MEMBERS OF NATO MISSIONS. STEPS SHOULD BE TAKEN TO PROVIDE GROUP WITH GREATER TECHNICAL COMPETENCE. FRG PREFERS THAT NEW TASKS BE HANDLED BY CNAD WITH REPORTS TO MINISTERS. POLITICAL WILL CAN BE GENERATED IN CNAD IF DESIRED.

LABERGE SAID AD HOC COMMITTEE IS SOLVING A SERIES OF PROBLEMS THAT ARE SUFFICIENTLY DIFFICULT THAT THEY CANNOT BE SOLVED BY ANYONE ELSE. BUT IT CANNOT TAKE REPORTS AND CHANGE THEM BECAUSE IT DOES NOT HAVE EXPERTISE TO OVERRULE. ALLIANCE NEEDS A STILL BETTER MECHANISM. US REP (M/G BOWMAN) POINTED OUT THAT MEMBERS OF AD HOC GROUP ALL ACT ON GUIDANCE FROM CAPITALS. TECHNICAL AS WELL AS POLITICAL EXPERTS MUST CAREFULLY REVIEW REPORTS OF WORKING GROUPS AND PROVIDE SUITABLE GUIDANCE TO AD HOC GROUP. ARMAMENT DIRECTORS SHOULD PLAY PRIMARY ROLE. LABERGE ENDORSED CONTINUATION OF AD HOC GROUP BUT ALSO ASKED FOR MORE USE OF REGULAR CNAD GROUPS.

EBERHARDT AGREED THAT CNAD HAS HAD FEW RESULTS ON INTEROPERABILITY AND THEREFORE AD HOC GROUP SHOULD CONTINUE AS LONG AS IT IS MAKING PROGRESS. DELPECH SAID EFFECTIVENESS OF NATO FORCES MUST IMPROVE RAPIDLY AND INCREASED INTEROPERABILITY IS AN IMPORTANT WAY TO CONTRIBUTE TO THAT END. AD HOC GROUP SHOULD CONTINUE

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AT LEAST THROUGH 1977. ALL AGREED TO LOOK CLOSELY
AT PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE WORK FOR THE AD HOC GROUP AND
TO INSURE THAT CNAD IS GEARED TO TAKE ON TASKS THAT IT
SHOULD PROPERLY DEAL WITH.

DELPECH CLOSED THE MEETING BY NOTING WITH
SATISFACTION THAT ALL THOSE PRESENT PLACED GREAT
IMPORTANCE ON ACHIEVING ALLIANCE INTEROPERABILITY.

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