

**TOP SECRET**

G-3/Plans Div/Int'l Br/52531  
Lt Col Mock/Maj Miller/aww

OPS 091 Germany (TS)

28 August 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE CHIEF OF STAFF, U.S. ARMY:

SUBJECT: Identical Letters from the President to the Secretaries of State and Defense, on the U.S. Position with Respect to the Defense of Europe and the Nature of the Contribution by Germany to this Defense. (SM 2012-50)

SUMMARY:

1. The President has forwarded a letter to Mr. Johnson asking for recommendations with regard to eight specific questions on the above subject. The President desires Mr. Johnson's recommendations by 1 September in order that Mr. Acheson may discuss this subject at the Foreign Ministers meetings beginning 12 September and, following that, at the North Atlantic Council meeting. G-3 recommends that you note the answers to the questions below and that they be used by you as a basis for discussion at the JCS meeting this date.

OBJECTIVES:

2. a. The subject paper is of equal interest to each of the three Services.

b. The objective of the subject paper is to develop a governmental position with regard to strengthening the defense of Europe and the nature of the contribution by Germany to this defense.

DISCUSSION:

3. The President has forwarded a letter to Mr. Johnson requesting his recommendations concerning eight specific questions on the above subject. The President requested Mr. Johnson's recommendations prior to 1 September, in order that Mr. Acheson will be in a position to discuss this subject during the Foreign Ministers meetings beginning 12 September and, following that, at the North Atlantic Council meetings.

4. The questions listed in the President's letter are apparently based upon the State Department proposal for the establishment of a European defense force (Annex to Appendix "A" to JCS 2124/13). You will recall that the JSPC is now preparing comments and recommendations on the State Department proposal as a matter of priority and that the JSSC has recommended a revision of JCS 2124/11 ("Rearmament of Western Germany"), in the light of the State Department proposal. G-3 has listed below general answers to the questions posed by the President, for use as a basis for discussion on this subject. However, it is believed that the final JCS response to the President's questions should be deferred until completion of the JSPC study on this subject. Upon receipt of the JSPC study, G-3 will make further detailed recommendations to you on this subject.

5. G-3 considers that the following tentative responses to the President's questions are appropriate for the JCS discussion on this subject today:

Question 1. Are we prepared to commit additional U.S. forces to the defense of Europe?

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Question 2. Are we prepared to support, and in what manner, the concept of a European defense force, including German participation on other than a national basis?

Answer. G-3 strongly recommends German participation in the defense of Europe. However, G-3 considers that the State Department concept of a unified European defense force of international character is most unrealistic. G-3 considers that the only practicable method to provide for the defense of Europe is to strengthen the existing North Atlantic Treaty Organization and to integrate Germany therein. G-3 will comment in more detail on the State Department proposal upon receipt of the JSPC study on this subject.

Question 3. Are we prepared to look forward to the eventuality of a Supreme Commander for the European defense forces?

Answer. Yes. However, G-3 considers that a Supreme Commander is unnecessary now. It is believed that, except in special circumstances, it is impracticable to exercise absolute military command over international forces in time of peace, although a Supreme Commander would obviously be necessary in the event of war. Therefore, G-3 favors the immediate creation of a "COSSAC" type headquarters with no Supreme Commander at this time.

Question 4. Are we prepared to support the immediate creation of a Combined Staff for such an eventual Supreme Commander?

Answer. Yes. You will recall that on 18 August the JCS, in JCS 1868/194, have stated that they favor the establishment at the earliest practicable time of an organization, under the Standing Group, which would consist of the Chief of Staff and his staff of certain NATO forces in Europe. In general, this organization would be of the "COSSAC" type. G-3 concurs that such a staff is appropriate and should be immediately created.

Question 5. Are we prepared to support supplementing the activities of the Military Production and Supply Board by a European War Production Board with centralized direction?

Answer. G-3 is not prepared to comment on this question and considers that it is a matter of primary interest to the Munitions Board.

Question 6. Are we prepared to consider full United States participation in European defense organs, i.e., would we be prepared to accept the responsibility of having an American Supreme Commander and an American Chairman of the European War Production Board?

Answer. Yes. G-3 favors full United States participation in European defense organs, with an American to head a "COSSAC" type organization in time of peace and possibly an American Supreme Commander in time of war. G-3 is not prepared to comment on the question of having an American Chairman of the European War Production Board and considers that this matter is one of primary interest to the Munitions Board.

Question 7. Are we prepared to support the transformation of the Standing Group into a Combined Chiefs of Staff organization?

Answer. Yes. G-3 favors the eventual transformation of the Standing Group into a CCS organization, provided that its scope is initially restricted solely to NATO and further provided that it is possible to invest in the CCS organization the appropriate degree of military authority.

Question 8. Are there any other ways through which we should attempt to invigorate NATO at this time?

Answer. Yes. G-3 strongly favors the immediate integration of both Germany and Spain into NATO. G-3 is not prepared to make a specific recommendation at this time concerning the integration of Greece

~~TOP SECRET~~RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. That you note the above answers to the President's questions, as a basis for the JCS discussion on this subject.

b. That the final JCS response to the President's questions be deferred until completion of the JSFC study on this subject, and the detailed G-3 comments thereon.

COORDINATION:

OOA informed (General Magruder, X-54339)  
G-2 informed (Col Sykes, X-54165)  
G-1 informed (Lt Col Worthington, X-56180)  
G-4 informed (Col Parsons, X-75470)  
Navy informed (Capt Worthington, X-74558)  
USAF informed (Capt Boukema, X-73734)

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Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3

5 Copies to SSS 28 May.