

OPS 091 Germany TS (26 Aug 50)

31 August 1950

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

SUBJECT: Rearmament of Western Germany (JCS 2124/16)

SUMMARY:

1. The State Department plan for a European Defense Force was referred to the JSSC for consideration as to possible revision of its previous study on the above subject. The JSSC, in the subject paper, states that no major changes in its previous study are necessary, but recommends 4 minor changes. G-3 concurs in those minor changes. However, G-3 considers that the subject paper, in a large measure, disregards the State Department plan. Since the President, in his letter to Mr. Johnson of 26 August, directed that State and Defense work together in developing recommendations on the problem, G-3 considers that it would not be responsive to the problem for a report on the subject paper to be furnished to the President as recommended by the JSSC. Accordingly, G-3 recommends an appropriate change in the JSSC memorandum to Mr. Johnson.

OBJECTIVE:

2. a. This paper is of equal interest to the three Services.
- b. The objective of the subject paper is to submit to Mr. Johnson the JCS views on NSC 71 and NSC 71/1 (Enclosure to JCS 2124/6).

DISCUSSION:

3. You will recall that on 27 July the JSSC prepared a report on the above subject (JCS 2124/11) and that the Services submitted comments to the JCS on that paper. Before a JCS decision had been made on JCS 2124/11, the State Department plan for a European Defense Force was received. The State Department proposal was reproduced (Annex to Appendix "A," JCS 2124/13) and the paper was referred to the JSSC for consideration as to possible revision of JCS 2124/11.

4. In JCS 2124/16, ^{page 150} the JSSC states that no major revision of JCS 2124/11 is necessary but makes 4 minor changes in the paper. The JSSC recommends that a memorandum be forwarded to Mr. Johnson recommending that the President be informed that:

"a. The early rearmament of Western Germany, even in the light of the new United States program of increased military assistance for the countries of Western Europe, could contribute decisively to a successful defense of Western Europe. Without Western German forces, it will not be possible to hold the Ruhr, which is vital to Western Europe;

RETURN TO AC/S, G-3, SHOWING ACTION

RG-319 / G-3 (450-51)

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JCS 2124/16

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"b. The United States Government should immediately press for provisions of security forces for Western Germany and for the organization of adequate police forces for Western Germany as the initial phase of its rearmament program;

"c. The question at this time is not one of whether we should risk the success of our political objectives vis-a-vis Western Germany but, rather, whether or not we can afford to jeopardize the security of the United States and of Western Europe by not utilizing all of the forces that can be made available to us."

5. G-3 concurs in the 4 minor revisions in the JSSC paper and also concurs that no major revisions are necessary. However, G-3 considers that the subject paper, in a large measure, disregards the State Department plan. Since the President has directed, in his letter to Mr. Johnson of 26 August, that the Department of State and the Department of Defense work together in developing recommendations on the problem of Germany's contribution to the defense of Western Europe, G-3 considers that it would not be responsive to the problem for the JCS to forward the report to the President as recommended in paragraph 16, page 115 of JCS 2124/11. Accordingly, G-3 has suggested an appropriate revision in the JSSC draft memorandum to Mr. Johnson.

6. It is understood at action-officer level that the Air Force will probably concur in the G-3 recommendation. The views of the Navy were not known at the time these notes were written.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of the attached memorandum.

COORDINATION:

OOA informed (General Magruder,	x-54339)
G-2 informed (Colonel Sykes,	x-54165)
G-1 informed (Lt Col Worthington,	x-56180)
G-4 informed (Colonel Parsons,	x-75474)
Navy informed (Captain Moses,	x-74294)
USAF informed (Captain Beukema,	x-74374)