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**SUBJECT:** Statements for U. S. Permanent Representative at NAC Meeting on Tripartite-NATO Relationships.

"At the Council meeting on March 5 the main issue raised was the degree of automaticity involved in the procedure suggested in Paragraph 5b (3) (a) and (b) of the paper on the relationships between Tripartite and NATO planning circulated to Council by the Permanent Representatives of the Three Powers.

"The purpose of this was not to obtain advance agreement by governments for automatic transfer during possible operations from Tripartite to NATO control, but to seek to obtain NATO decisions for planning purposes on the appropriate time for such transfer so that effective continuity can be assured between Live Oak and NATO plans. The actual transfer of control would occur only on decisions by governments at the time of the emergency. As stated in Paragraph 5 C (1) (c) execution of contingency plans prepared by NATO commanders will be the subject of

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decisions by NATO governments at the time. NATO commanders could not automatically initiate execution of NATO plans.

"With respect to Live Oak plans, as distinct from NATO plans, the governments of the UK, France and U.S. approve these plans, and decisions to execute such plans will be decided by the three governments at the time, but, of course, as stated in Paragraph 5 C (1) (a), the three governments will, time permitting, advise and consult with NAC prior to implementing Live Oak plans.

"The instructions to NATO military authorities on Berlin plans in CM(61)104 oblige NATO commanders to 'provide plans for appropriate alert measures for NATO forces prior to initiation of any Tripartite military measures.' These plans, which it is hoped will be submitted shortly, are to be forwarded to the Council for approval by governments through the Permanent Representatives. As you know, approved NATO alert procedures recognize the possibility that by agreement of individual governments NATO alerts could be applied to their assigned forces before unanimous approval had been granted by all NATO members of such alerts.

"It is important to recall that in the NAC instructions to military authorities (CM(61)104) NATO members agreed to improve Allied military posture as a clear indication of their capability and will to apply appropriate military measures if need be to deter Soviet-GDR authorities from taking action to block Western access to Berlin or otherwise to infringe on the basic rights of the West in Berlin.

"At the March 5 Council meeting a number of questions were raised on various points of the tripartite paper.

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"The Danish representative, referring to Para 5 B (3), asked for an explanation of 'NATO mechanisms'. These are the normal channels for exercising command, including commanders, headquarters, staffs and associated communications.

"The Canadian representative asked whether control might pass to NATO at an earlier stage than was envisaged in the paper. More specifically on Para 5 B (3) (a) he asked for an amplification of the phrase 'greater size'. Strong reasons argue against NATO control of operations when lesser forces are involved than those mentioned in the paper. The concept of Live Oak is to probe Soviet intentions by starting with very small forces and only increasing the size as this is necessary, given Soviet reactions, to determine the nature and depth of those intentions. Earlier involvement of NATO than that proposed would constitute political escalation and would be contrary to the idea of limited probing by the Powers directly responsible for Berlin.

"The Italian representative, referring to Para 5 C (2), asked what was meant by 'maximum flexibility'. The meaning is simply that military commanders should have normal freedom in operations to accomplish missions to which they are assigned within the specific directions which they are given.

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