

CONSEIL DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD
NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

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WORKING PAPER
AC/276-WP(72)46

MUTUAL AND BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS WORKING GROUP

OUTLINE WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE SUB-GROUP ON
MOVEMENT CONSTRAINTS

Note by the Staff Group

The guidelines which follow apply to the work programme of the Sub-Group on Movement Constraints, starting in November 1972.

2. The Working Group, having in mind the planned sequence of events leading to MBFR Explorations starting on 31st January, 1973 and Negotiations in September/October 1973, and recognizing the complexity and time-consuming detailed work inseparable from study of movement constraints, consider it necessary for the months immediately ahead to restrict these studies to:

- (a) Ground Forces and their Airlift.
- (b) The territories of NATO and the Warsaw Pact in Europe but not extending beyond those regions of the Soviet Union bordering on the territories of NATO countries and on territories of other Warsaw Pact countries in the NATO Guidelines Area plus Hungary. An illustrative list of the areas concerned is at Annex.

3. To facilitate their work, the SGMC should draw, to the maximum extent appropriate, on studies already completed.

4. Priority should be given to:

- (a) Studies aimed at eliminating or mitigating any increase in the potential threat to the flanks which may arise as a result of MBFR in Central Europe.
- (b) The extent, if any, to which constraints already proposed for the NATO Guidelines Area need to be modified if Hungary were included.

This document includes: 1 Annex

N A T O C O N F I D E N T I A L

5. The following issues may also be studied, on the basis of national contributions. They may be studied simultaneously with those listed at paragraph 4 above if this can be done without delaying action on those listed at paragraph 4. The Chairman of the SGMC may feel that, in these as in other studies, it might expedite consideration and be of value to the Sub-Group to call for national inputs as a basis for papers and discussion. The issues to be studied are:

- (a) The value of a zonal system of constraints for the Central Region along the general lines proposed in a Canadian paper, AC/276-WP(72)40.
- (b) The value to NATO of the inclusion of the 3 WMDs in the Constraints area. This study should take into consideration the military implications for NATO of having to include, in return, other Western territories.
- (c) Factors which might cause post-reduction movement constraints to differ qualitatively or quantitatively from the pre-reduction movement constraints considered desirable and feasible in AC/276-WP(72)27.

6. The Working Group recognize that the (flanks) study given priority at paragraph 4 above is a major task. They consider that, while the collation of basic data and preparation of national contributions should be initiated for all areas simultaneously and as soon as possible, the Sub-Group on Movement Constraints should consider specific areas (e.g. N. Norway: Leningrad MD) in turn, and the Chairman of the SGMC should, either on behalf of the Sub-Group or on his own responsibility, render reports to the Working Group on each area as it is complete. Such reports should list and examine the military and technical factors, and any conclusions reached. They need not make specific recommendations.

7. Similarly, the Working Group consider that it would be appropriate for the Sub-Group to publish reports on aspects of their work (e.g. Airlift capabilities) which serve as basic or background data for all areas, as soon as the material is collated. These last reports can then remain on record and need not be repeated in successive drafts and judgmental reports.

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1110 Brussels.

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ILLUSTRATIVE LIST OF TERRITORIES

1. For NATO: North Norway
Denmark
FRG) In NATO Guidelines Area
B'LUX)
Italy
Greece
Turkey
2. For WP: GDR)
Poland) In NATO Guidelines Area
Czechoslovakia)
Hungary
Rumania
Bulgaria
plus the following Military Districts of USSR:
- Leningrad
 Baltic
 BeloRussian
 Carpathian
 Odessa
 Kiev
 N. Caucasus
 Trans Caucasus