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#### THE 12th MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF NATO

A general view of the Conference Room at NATO Headquarters, Palais de Chaillot, Paris.

Ministerial meeting. An indication of the subjects covered is given in paragraph 9 of the Communiqué. In discussing these matters, a number of Ministers emphasized the need to develop increased co-operation between the NATO countries in non-military spheres, to develop greater unity and wider public understanding, if the Organization was to endure.

#### FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ

1. The North Atlantic Council, meeting in Paris in Ministerial Session under the Chairmanship of the French Foreign Minister, M. Georges Bidault, completed its work today.

2. The Council examined the international situation and views were exchanged on matters of common concern, including Soviet policy. The Council concluded that there had been no evidence of any change in ultimate Soviet objectives and that it remained a principal Soviet aim to bring about the disintegration of the Atlantic Alliance. While the Soviet Government had yet to show that it genuinely desired to reach agreement on any of the outstanding points of difference throughout the world, the policy of NATO is to seek solutions to problems by peaceful means. The Council therefore welcomed the steps taken by the Governments of France, the United Kingdom and the United States in their recent exchanges of notes with the Soviet Government to bring about an early meeting of the four Foreign Ministers in Berlin. The Council also warmly endorsed the initiative taken by the President of the United States in placing before the United Nations proposals for developing and expediting the peaceful use of atomic energy and bringing together the Powers principally involved in order to seek a solution to the problem of atomic armaments.

3. The Council reaffirmed its conviction that peace and security must be the paramount aim of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. It recognized