

Germany is already included in NATO defence plans because, under the existing terms of the Treaty, an armed attack on the occupation forces of three Western powers in Germany would be regarded as an attack on all the NATO Powers. It is for this reason that Canadian forces are stationed in the Federal Republic, and the admission of the Federal Republic to NATO is not expected to affect the disposition of these forces.

As already noted, the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe will exercise greater authority over the forces under his command, including the Canadian forces. He will have increased powers to organize and distribute the logistic support required by these forces and to call for reports and make field inspections regarding the level and effectiveness of the forces and their equipment. We have also agreed not to use our troops in Europe in peacetime without the Supreme Commander's consent, and have accepted the principle of the maximum degree of integration of the NATO forces consistent with military efficiency. However, these measures will probably make little difference to Canada in practice. The Canadian forces, and their logistic arrangements, are already highly integrated with the other NATO forces with which they serve in Europe, and it is most unlikely that these forces would ever have been used except in consultation with NATO.

Outstanding International Development

In many respects the conclusion of these agreements constituted the outstanding international development of 1954. One effect, and perhaps the most important, was to fill the critical void created in Western political and military planning by the failure of the EDC. The German Federal Republic is now to become a sovereign member of the Atlantic alliance and will make a contribution of some twelve divisions, 1350 aircraft and light naval forces to the common defence. At the same time membership in this association will involve limitations on its freedom of action, as it will on that of the other member countries. It is considered, however, that this association is based on a sufficiently substantial community of interest that it will prove of mutual benefit both to the Federal Republic and to the other member countries. Another effect of the success of the London and Paris meetings was to bring about a renewal of Western solidarity and unity of purpose at a time when they were severely shaken by the rejection of arrangements which had been the subject of complicated negotiations and prolonged debates in many parliaments of the Western world. In the third place, these agreements embody an armament control scheme in which, for the first time, sovereign states will be submitting their armed forces and armament production facilities to mutually agreed limitations administered in common. This scheme should not only help to build up the confidence of those who still fear a renewal of German aggression, but should also provide a practical model for any general plan for the limitation and control of armaments that may be devised under the United Nations. Finally, these agreements serve to underline the purely defensive nature of the Alliance, since they include solemn declarations by the Federal Republic on the one hand, never to have recourse to force to achieve the reunification