

any other country in the North Atlantic area or in Western Europe, the defence of which is considered vital to the defence of the parties to this Treaty”.

3. *Suspension and Expulsion.* It is suggested that the question of the suspension or expulsion of parties to the Treaty requires further consideration. It might be left to the Council to determine the conditions whereby suspension or expulsion could be effected, through the addition to the Treaty before Article 10 of an article on the following lines:

“The Council established by Article 8 may suspend any party from membership of the Council or of any subsidiary bodies set up by the Council. The Council may declare that any party whose membership of the Council or of subsidiary bodies has been suspended for not less than two months has ceased to be a party to this Treaty.”

4. *Duration.* The duration of the Treaty was left blank in the draft of Article 10. It is suggested that an initial term of twenty years, with a requirement for two years’ notice of denunciation, would be satisfactory.

B. Drafting Points

The following suggestions do not introduce any points of substance, but look to the improvement of the language of some of the draft articles in the interests of greater clarity.

Article 3. The phrase “severally and jointly” is legalistic and not easily intelligible to the general public. It might be altered to read “individually and collectively”, or, since those words are used later in the article, “separately and in common”.

Article 5, Paragraph 2. At the beginning of the article reference is made to “any armed attack directed against the territory, *the population*, or the armed forces of any of the parties”. The inclusion of the words “the population” does not appear to be necessary, since it would be impossible to attack the population of any party without attacking either its territory or its armed forces.

In both Alternatives A and B greater precision appears to be necessary in order to ensure that all island territories of the parties in the area are covered. The exact limits covered by the words “Europe or North America” are open to dispute. As it is intended to include the Arctic islands and the islands in the North Atlantic area which are part of the territories of parties, but not to include territories of parties south of the Tropic of Cancer, the initial phrase in either of the two alternatives might read, “Europe, or North America north of the Tropic of Cancer, or the Arctic regions.”

Unless a change of this nature is made the article would be open to the following interpretations, among others: (a) that some of the Arctic islands were not covered on the ground that they are a part neither of North America nor of Europe, and are situated in the Arctic Ocean and not in “the sea and air space of the North Atlantic area”; (b) that British Honduras and perhaps some of the West Indian islands belonging to the United States, the United Kingdom and France were included although they are south of the Tropic of Cancer, on the ground that they are part of North America; (c) that Greenland might not be covered, in whole or in part, on the