

Security Council on the whole question of the Military Staff Committee. The reasoning behind this conclusion is that a further airing of the fundamental disagreements between the Powers in the Security Council would not only fail to produce any agreement on the principles governing the Military Staff Committee but might also be used by the Russians for propaganda purposes as evidence that, having completed the North Atlantic Treaty, the Western Powers were not anxious to reach agreement under the United Nations.

5. Most recent advice from General McNaughton (telegram No. 372 of March 29)† is that the United Kingdom now admits that it would be useless to bring the question before the Security Council. The United States, Chinese and French Delegations are also opposed to any discussion of the Military Staff Committee at the present time.

6. In view of the above, I think it would be advisable to instruct our representative in the Security Council not to initiate any move to have this question reconsidered by the Council for the time being. On the other hand, we should, I think, not appear unwilling to discuss it if the Soviet Delegation should bring it up. If you approve, and if the Chiefs of Staff Committee agree with this recommendation, I suggest that we might send appropriate instructions to General McNaughton in the form of comments on the United Kingdom Working Paper.⁵⁹

J.W. HOLMES

217.

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*Le délégué permanent aux Nations Unies
au secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures*

*Permanent Delegate to United Nations
to Secretary of State for External Affairs*

TELEGRAM 1162

New York, December 13, 1949

SECRET

Security Council Article 43.

1. Each time I have been President of the Security Council I have felt it my duty to consider carefully whether there would be anything to be gained, or any useful purpose to be served, in calling for formal Security Council consideration of the Implementation of Article 43 of the Charter. Accordingly, two weeks ago I enquired privately of the United Kingdom, United States and French delegations what their views were on the desirability of Council consideration at this time.

2. The United Kingdom delegation, after consideration, advised us that in their view it was definitely undesirable. The Council would not at this time get anywhere in this matter; agreement with the U.S.S.R. on the Military Staff Committee appears not only impossible but probably undesirable; and there would in the view

⁵⁹ Le Comité des chefs de l'état-major étaient d'accord, et un télégramme fut envoyé le 22 avril 1949.
The Chiefs of Staff Committee agreed and a telegram was sent on April 22, 1949.