

"The enduring nature of the North Atlantic community must rest on something broader and deeper than military co-operation alone. Indeed, this is explicit in the Atlantic Pact itself, through Article 2, and is reflected in the growing habit of consultation and feeling of community within the group. This concept of the "North Atlantic community" cannot easily be defined. Nor does it necessarily have to express itself always and immediately in institutional terms. But the idea itself is of vital importance and advantage should be taken of every opportunity to transform it into reality.

The Committee feels, however, that this transformation, though essential, will not be easy, indeed, it may not even be possible if economic collaboration does not develop and increase; if the members of the North Atlantic community do not take early and concrete steps to liberalize and expand trade between them and with other friendly countries. They must give their peoples the hope of greater human welfare by increased production and exchange of goods on an easier and wider basis than is now possible."

The report also made certain concrete suggestions to avoid duplication and overlapping in this economic field, especially with the Organization for European Economic Co-operation. We also discussed in this report co-ordination and consultation on our separate foreign policies, and the desirability--we have emphasized this before at NATO--of no one member of the Organization taking a far-reaching decision on foreign policy without at least some consultation with the other members of the Organization whenever possible. There was also a section in the report by the Committee of Five dealing with the movement of labour and manpower, subjects that are of very great importance to some European members of the Organization. Certain proposals for social and cultural co-operation were made, such as the exchange of students, the encouragement of travel, the exchange of teachers, as well as other proposals for making NATO, its ideals and its purposes, better known.

Finally in this report we recommended our own disappearance as a Committee of Five. We felt that this subject of non-military co-operation could not be dealt with effectively on any basis smaller than that of the full membership of the Council, and as the Council will be in permanent session now it should take over the work of developing this field. That is what will happen. ...

I cannot give any information in concrete terms as to what has been done in the field to which I just referred. Indeed, very little has been done in the field of non-military co-operation. I admit that, and I think we must all be disappointed that more has not been done. But we have laid the foundation for a growing feeling of community in these matters, and I think if we are patient we shall find that results will be achieved. Some progress has been made, for instance, in the field of migration, but that is of more concern to the European countries than our own. Then there is the question of the exchange of labour between European countries. On this occasion in our report we did make to the Council certain concrete and specific suggestions for action. It is not however, appropriate for me to tell exactly what they are until the Council decides what action it can take in regard to them. ...