

CHAPITRE IV/CHAPTER IV  
SÉCURITÉ DE L'ATLANTIQUE DU NORD  
NORTH ATLANTIC SECURITY

PREMIÈRE PARTIE/PART 1  
NÉGOCIATION DU TRAITÉ DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD  
NEGOTIATION OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY

263.

DEA/283(s)

*Note du secrétaire d'État aux Affaires extérieures  
pour le premier ministre*

*Memorandum from Secretary of State for External Affairs  
to Prime Minister*

TOP SECRET

[Ottawa], January 4, 1949

Last week in New York I discussed with Mr. Wrong the draft of the proposed North Atlantic treaty as agreed on by the Ambassadors' Committee in Washington. This draft is in the nature of a first reading and has not yet been cleared in Washington above the level of the Under-Secretary of State, though General Marshall is, I believe, familiar in a general way with its terms. At the present time, Mr. Lovett is discussing the draft with the White House, Congressional leaders and the War Department. It may be therefore that the second draft, which will be submitted later in the light of observations received from governments, will differ in certain substantial respects from the one we now have before us.

I am outlining below the views which we agreed on in New York on the various articles of the draft.

*Article 1. (Peaceful Settlement)* — The parties undertake, as set forth in Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations, to settle their international disputes in such a manner that peace, security and justice are not endangered, and to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations.

Though juridically this article is unnecessary for those signatories who are members of the United Nations, it is politically desirable. We felt that it might be advantageous to include in the treaty an article along the lines of that suggested by the French representative providing that the parties will refer to the International Court of Justice all disputes which come under the provision of Article 36 of the Statute of the Court. When the French Ambassador submitted an article to this effect, it did not secure general approval in the Working Group, but Mr. Wrong will take the matter up again in the second reading. One difficulty is that the United Kingdom has maintained certain reservations regarding submissions to the Court and there would be no value in including a paragraph of this kind in the draft unless those reservations were abandoned.