



NATO MEETING IN PARIS

A meeting of the North Atlantic Council was held at NATO Headquarters in the Palais de Chaillot December 15-19. Canadian representatives there included (front row, left to right): Mr. L. D. Wilgress, Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs; Mr. D. C. Abbott, Minister of Finance; Mr. Brooke Claxton, Minister of National Defence; Mr. A. D. P. Heeney, Canadian Permanent Representative to NATO.

the North Atlantic area was completed by the establishment of a Mediterranean Command. Admiral Lord Mountbatten, R.N., was appointed Commander-in-Chief Mediterranean under General Ridgway, the Supreme Allied Commander Europe.

The Council approved the Strategic Guidance drawn up by the Military Committee to take into account the accession of Greece and Turkey to NATO. When approving this paper, the Council reaffirmed their determination to defend, without qualification, all the territories and peoples of the North Atlantic Treaty area.

The Council had invited the two Supreme Commanders, General Ridgway and Admiral McCormick, to make statements regarding their commands. They both paid tribute to the high quality of the forces assigned to them and, while recognizing that the decision regarding the forces which would be placed at their disposal rested with the Council, they both stressed the necessity of continuing the force build-up in order to make it possible for them to carry out their responsibility.

Continuing Requirements

One of the continuing requirements of the NATO forces is for permanent installation such as aerodromes, jet-fuel facilities and signals for the common use of these forces. Programmes for financing these facilities, known as "infrastructure", had been approved by the Council on previous occasions, and they were already under construction. As more forces were put at the disposal of NATO commanders and as steps were taken to work them into an integrated operational defensive force, the lack of