

*NATO—European Defence Community*

unification. They are anxious for unification, but they want the democratic approach to that unification.

Reference has been made to the growth of trade in West Germany. I saw evidence of the way in which new plants have sprung up all through the Ruhr valley from the rubble of factories which were destroyed. No one travelling in that country can help but be impressed by the resilience of the German people. Those people have to live by trade; they have to find markets in the world in which they can sell their manufactured goods.

Reference was made to the possibility of having free elections in Germany. In my opinion it will be difficult to bring about the unification of Germany until free elections can be held in all parts of Germany and in the various sections of Berlin. Evidence was given before a committee of the United Nations in Paris to the effect that at the present time free elections could not be held in East Germany. It was said that that could not be done until the Russian authorities were prepared to allow the leaders of parties other than the communist party to come into East Germany and announce their policies on the public platform. That cannot be done at the present time. Although there are small groups keeping alive democratic ideas in East Germany, the meetings of those groups must be held in secret or they must come into West Germany or western Berlin in order to discuss these matters.

There are two questions regarding this protocol which I should like to have answered. I notice in article I reference is made to the territory of any of the members of the European defence community in Europe. It then goes on to say that an attack on the territory of any member shall be considered an attack against all the parties to the North Atlantic treaty and require necessary action.

I am rather interested in knowing the position at the present time in respect to Turkey. Turkey is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, but in the main she is an Asiatic power. Any threat to Turkish territory might well be through an Asiatic approach to that land which is most vulnerable in that direction. We know that for some five hundred years Turkey has exercised dominion over many Arabian countries. We know that there are communist satellite states on her eastern border. Would an attack on Turkey developing from Asia be considered as excluded from the provisions of this protocol, or are we to be committed to going to Turkey's assistance if an attack

should come through Asia? Are we concerned only with the European portion of Turkey? This article states definitely "in Europe". That is one point which I would ask the minister to clear up.

When the minister was referring to Western Germany and our responsibilities to Western Germany he made no reference to Berlin. Berlin of course is entirely separate from Western Germany. It is in a peculiar situation in that it is surrounded by Russian-occupied zones. I would ask the minister to advise the house what our obligations are with respect to the western sector of Berlin where we have very definite connections but quite different from those with regard to Western Germany. I think it is somewhat ambiguous to leave the situation as it is at the present moment.

There was one other remark in the minister's speech that I wanted to mention. He referred to the reorganization of the German army and the supplying of the German forces with armament which he said was defensive. While the intention may be that the armament should be used defensively I think it would be giving a false impression if the statement were let stand that the Germans were only being allowed to rearm with armament of a purely defensive nature. Otherwise one might consider that the sole armament with which the German forces would be equipped might be anti-aircraft artillery and that sort of thing. From published reports, however, we know that the German component of the European army will have such formations as panzer divisions; and while panzer divisions may be used entirely defensively nobody could possibly say that they are defensive armament. I wanted to raise that point.

I think we must also realize the fact that Germany has no army at the present time and has not had for a period of seven years. Armies cannot be created overnight even though there is a core of officers who saw active service seven years ago. It is going to take some time before a reorganized German army can be ready to take the field or can be effective in any way. Personally I feel that the immediate danger of the next two or three years so far as the possibility of a Russian advance through Europe is concerned outweighs for the time being at least the dangers which might be foreseen in the creation of a German army.

I do not think Germany has any thought of embarking upon another Franco-Prussian war or of initiating operations against France or any other European country. At the present time her feelings are far more hostile toward Russia than toward any other European