

I note that you have emphasized that France is continuing to subscribe to the Treaty.

HON. PAUL MARTIN: To the Alliance.

TONY WESTELL: To the Alliance. And you have said that there is no foundation to the story that she is going to withdraw her political support. Where does the problem arise there?

HON. PAUL MARTIN: Well, the difficulty arises out of the fact that General de Gaulle is going to Moscow at a time when France has taken a very vital decision with regard to the NATO force structure, and it is naturally asked what is the purpose of this visit. Are there going to be arrangements made at that meeting that will be inconsistent with the general purpose pursued by NATO collectively and by its individual members acting in their own national right. That is what we mean. I do not say that there will be. I attach to General de Gaulle's decision not to denounce the Treaty-to be obligated by its automatic military provisions-as an indication that France does not share in the concept of military organization, but that it does share in the basic political purposes of the NATO Alliance.

J. H. POLIQUIN: Sir, what about the bases?

HON. PAUL MARTIN: We will have to vacate our two bases, as the United States will have to vacate their five. We have until April 1st, 1967, to decide where we will relocate. But this is a decision which we will have to make fairly soon. It will not be