

APPENDIX "C"

AIDE-MEMOIRE FROM FRANCE TO CANADA OF MARCH 29

In an aide-memoire dated March 10, the French Government informed the Government of Canada of the measures it was led to take, as far as it was concerned, because of the impossibility of modifying by common consent and under satisfactory conditions the arrangements in force within the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. This impossibility has just been confirmed by the Declaration issued on March 18 by fourteen member countries of the Atlantic Alliance, including Canada itself.

The French Government has the honour of giving fuller particulars below concerning the measures contemplated.

1. The French Government has announced that it proposed to end the assignment to the Allied Command, Europe of French land and air forces stationed in Germany. It has the honour to inform the Government of Canada that this assignment will come to an end on July 1.

2. The restoration of solely national command over French forces will entail the withdrawal, on the same date, of French personnel assigned to the Integrated Allied Commands. These are the Supreme Command, Allied Forces in Europe, the Central Europe Command, the Southern Europe Command and their subordinate Commands, as well as the NATO Defence College. The staff personnel and the French students of the NATO Defence College will be withdrawn following the current term, which ends on July 23.

The French Government believes that, after French participation has ceased, it would be appropriate to establish liaison missions to the headquarters concerned. French officers would thus be on hand, more particularly to assist Allied general staffs in operations concerning the withdrawal from French territory. The establishment of these liaison facilities with the Allied Commands would also facilitate the study of conditions under which French forces, particularly in Germany, should they remain stationed on the territory of the Federal Republic, could participate in wartime in joint military actions, both with regard to command arrangements and to operations proper. It is specified, in this connection, that on the hypothesis envisaged, the French forces would be stationed in Germany under the Convention of October 23, 1954 concerning the stationing of foreign forces on the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany.

3. The withdrawal of French component units assigned to the Allied general staffs (Supreme Command and Central Europe) and to the NATO Defence College entails the transfer from French territory of the headquarters of these organizations.

It seems that a period of one year would allow the necessary measures to be taken to this effect and that by April 1, 1967 the whole operation could be completed.