

APPENDIX NO. 1

Government Positions on Major External Issues Involving NATO.

During the 1959-1967 period there have been at least six external issues which have attracted editorial attention and can be used as indicators of editorial support for NATO. The importance placed on these issues by the Conservative Government prior to 1963, and by the Liberal Government since then has varied because of the series of crises that have confronted NATO. In this situation the six issues follow a fairly consistent chronological pattern and have been dealt with in this way by the press and the two Government's involved. The six issues are 1. the need to broaden the base of the alliance in terms of political and economic transformation (1959-1962), 2. the need for greater consultation within the alliance on the Heads of Government level (1960-1963), 3. the Berlin crisis of 1961, 4. the issue of a NATO nuclear force, including the original Norstad proposal, the Polaris fleet and finally the MLF (1960-1965), 5. the problem of France's withdrawal from the integrated command structure (1966-1967). The purpose of this appendix is to present statements by the Conservative and Liberal Government's on these issues in order to make comparisons with editorial attitudes. These statements have been used as the basis of the Government's position in Table No. 10.

Issue No. 1 - Broadening the Base of NATO - 1959-1962.

This issue was discussed by both the Conservative and the Liberal Governments during the 1959-1967 period, but was only considered important by the press from 1959 to 1962. Government statements will be limited to this period. For the Conservatives there were two aspects of the issue. One of which dealt with the need to expand NATO so it could cope with the economic efforts of the Soviet Union and other communist nations to expand their influence to other parts of the world. The Government placed some emphasis on economic development, and the advantage NATO had in dealing with any communist action to sway the underdeveloped areas of the world. This was stated in very general terms and any expansion of NATO in this area was to be economic and not military.

In his New Years Message of 1958 Sidney Smith noted that at the Copenhagen meeting "there was general agreement on the importance of co-ordinated effort to ensure economic prosperity - notably by the expansion of international trade and by aid to under-developed countries. Consultation on methods and machinery for co-operation within this field will take place within the alliance".¹

This same opinion was expressed by Howard Green to the House of Commons on April 26, 1961 after he returned from the Oslo meetings. "NATO, however, continues to have a most important role to play in assessing the implications for the alliance of the economic developments and policies of the Sino-Soviet Bloc and ... in developing the political will among NATO countries to find solutions for economic problems which threaten to weaken the alliance or which threaten to provide opportunities for the extension of Communist influence".²

The second aspect which dealt with the broadening of the base of the alliance was, of course, the continued support for economic and political development within NATO. Even though this was not emphasized to the same extent as during