

APPENDIX "B"

AIDE MEMOIRE

(Handed on the 29th of March to Mr. Hervé Alphand, Secretary-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by Mr. Jules Leger, Canadian Ambassador to France.)

The Canadian Government acknowledges the receipt of the French Aide Memoire of March 10, setting out the French Government's general views and intentions with regard to NATO's military arrangements and to arrangements between Canada and France concerning the stationing in France of Canadian forces assigned to NATO command. The Canadian Government is examining the implications and consequences of the French position which, while not all entirely clear, will evidently require allied consultation. The Canadian Government will make known its own views in due course.

1. Consideration should be given, on the other hand, to problems which may present themselves to France with regard to the Military Committee and the Standing Group, including the problem of liaison between these bodies and the French Command.

2. Such are the broad outlines of measures contemplated by the French Government which it regards as necessary to adapt to new conditions the modalities of its participation in the Atlantic Alliance. It is prepared to enter discussions with regard to the implementation of these measures, and it hopes that appropriate arrangements may be agreed upon by all its Allies.

3. Multilateral problems are not however the only ones to be considered as far as Canada and France are concerned. Both countries have concluded agreements in the past concerning the construction and the operation of airports on French territory intended for the use of the Royal Canadian Air Force.

4. The French Government considers that these agreements no longer meet present conditions, which lead it to recover the full exercise of its sovereignty on French territory, or in other words no longer to accept that foreign units, installations or bases in France should in any way be responsible to authorities other than French. It is ready to examine, and eventually to settle with the Government of Canada, the practical consequences this policy entails.

5. Moreover the French Government is ready to discuss the military facilities which could be placed at the disposal of the Government of Canada on French territory in the event of a conflict to which both countries would participate under the Atlantic Alliance. These facilities could be the object of an agreement to be concluded between both Governments.