



communiqué

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NATO PROPOSAL TO STOCKHOLM CONFERENCE

The Honourable Allan J. MacEachen, Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced that at the Stockholm Conference this morning Canada and fifteen other members of the North Atlantic Alliance sponsored a proposal calling for the adoption of a set of Confidence- and Security-Building Measures (CSBM) which they believe will enhance mutual confidence throughout Europe. Formally presented by the representative of Turkey on behalf of the Alliance, the proposal calls for measures which would facilitate the exchange of basic military information, give early notice of a wide range of military activities, require mandatory exchanges of observers and establish ways to verify any agreements reached.

In his speech to the Conference last Wednesday, January 18, Mr. MacEachen indicated that the Western group of nations would present such a package of proposals at an early date and he urged the Conference to approach its task with the sense of urgency which the present international situation demands.

A copy of the Western proposal is annexed.

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PROPOSAL SUBMITTED BY THE DELEGATIONS OF BELGIUM,
CANADA, DENMARK, FRANCE, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF
GERMANY, GREECE, ICELAND, ITALY, LUXEMBOURG,
NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, PORTUGAL, SPAIN, TURKEY,
UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Confidence- and Security-Building Measures (CSBMs)

- Recalling that the Conference on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures and Disarmament in Europe is an integral part of the process initiated by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and that, according to the Madrid Concluding Document, the objective of the first stage of the Conference is to adopt a set of mutually complementary confidence- and security-building measures;
- The above-named States are determined to work for the adoption of measures that would create greater openness and more predictability in military activities in order to reduce the risk of surprise attack, diminish the threat of armed conflict in Europe resulting from misunderstanding and miscalculation and inhibit the use of force for the purpose of political intimidation;
- Implementation and verification of such measures, as well as respect for existing international commitments, would enhance stability, contribute to the preservation of peace and could open up prospects for new progress in disarmament;
- With these goals in mind and in conformity with the mandate for the Conference the above-mentioned States propose the following confidence- and security-building measures:

I. MEASURES OF INFORMATION

Measure 1: Exchange of Military Information

At the start of each calendar year, the participating States agree to exchange information on the structure of their ground forces and land-based air forces in the zone of application for agreed CSBMs as agreed in the mandate for the Conference.

Information will also be given on the existing regulations in the CDE zone for accredited military personnel.

Clarification of information may be sought by appropriate means.

The information thus exchanged will form a basis for further measures dealing with military activities.

II. MEASURES DESIGNED TO ENHANCE STABILITY

Measure 2: Exchange of Forecasts of Activities Notifiable in Advance

The participating States will exchange annual forecasts of all military activities in the CDE zone which would be notifiable in advance under any other CSBM. Amendments to the forecast need not be given if a notifiable activity is either an addition to or a change from the forecast; such information will be provided in the actual notification for that activity.

Clarification of information contained in the annual forecast may be sought by appropriate means.

Measure 3: Notification of Military Activities

Notification will be given by the participating States 45 days in advance of the following activities in the CDE zone:

- Out-of-garrison land activities.

When one or more ground force divisions or equivalent formations or 6,000 or more ground troops not organized into a division, or forces comprising more than a specified number of main battle tanks, or armoured personnel carriers/mechanized infantry combat vehicles are carrying out a common activity under a single command, whether independent or combined with air and/or amphibious support.

- Mobilization Activities.

When 25,000 or more troops or the major combat elements of three or more divisions are involved.

- Amphibious Activities

When three or more battalions or 3,000 amphibious troops carry out a landing in the CDE zone.

When a notifiable out-of-garrison land activity, mobilization activity or amphibious activity is carried out on short notice as an alert activity, it will be notifiable at the time it begins, that is, when troops are ordered to carry out the activity.

All notifications will be made in a standardized format to be agreed on.

Compliance with arrangements agreed under this measure will be subject to various forms of verification including the invitation of observers and inspection. Questions concerning compliance with the arrangements agreed under this measure can be dealt with by appropriate means.

III. OBSERVATION AND VERIFICATION MEASURES

Measure 4: Observation of Certain Military Activities

The participating States agree to invite observers from all other participating States to all pre-notified activities and to alert activities of longer than a specified period conducted in the CDE zone on their territory. The host State shall ensure that observers are provided the opportunity to form a judgement, supported by direct observation in the area of activity, as to the routine nature of the activity.

Measure 5: Compliance and Verification

A. National Technical Means

Participating States agree not to interfere with national technical means. In using their national technical means for the purpose of verification, participating States will respect generally recognized principles of international law.

B. Monitoring of Compliance

Subject to limitations and modalities to be agreed, participating States may request inspection concerning compliance with agreed CSBMs.

These provisions provide participating States with the opportunity to monitor and thus verify whether notified activities are non-threatening and correspond to the details given in notifications, and that all notifiable activities are properly notified.

Measure 6: Development of Means of Communication

Arrangements should be made which will enhance the means of communication between participating States.