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Nov. 30, 1965 334/10A
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NO. POLTO 929

FROM US TO PARIS

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on Special Committee.

Subject: Brosio's Briefing ~~SECRET~~

As agreed to by the Special Committee, Brosio on November 29 orally filled in the PermReps of four countries which are not on the Special Committee (France, Norway, Portugal, Luxembourg -Iceland does not participate in discussion of nuclear matters on the grounds that it has no armed forces).

Following account based on discussions with de Leusse (France), Busch (Norway) and Bacchetti (Brosio's Chef du Cabinet):

Brosio began by saying that since his report to the Ministerial meeting in December would be largely procedural he wished to fill in non-member countries on the results of Special Committee's first meeting. He then gave synopses of his, Brosio's, remarks, Secretary McNamara's, and brief accounts of interventions by other Ministers.

Brosio then described three Working Groups, gave their composition but no details as to how the composition was chosen, and read at dictation speed terms of reference which Norwegian Delegation, for one, copied verbatim.

CONCURRENCES

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Ambassador Cleveland

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-2-

Brosio also mentioned establishment of Steering Committee which he would chair.

~~Stark~~ Kristiansen (Norway) noted that Special Committee was a NAC committee chaired by SYG and asked for copies of SYG's and McNamara's statements. da Cunha (Portugal) and de Lousse (France) strongly supported Kristiansen's request. Reuter (Luxembourg) also strongly supported Kristiansen's request. In spite of being pressed quite hard by all four PermReps, Brosio did not commit himself to make documents available. He took line that Special Committee was open-ended and if non-members desired documentation they should become members. deLousse hinted that question of making Special Committee documents available to all members of Alliance would be raised in NAC.

COMMENT: Secretary General has not yet raised question of making Secretary McNamara's statement available to others. In view of the fact that Steering Committee is scheduled to meet at the beginning of next week, we do not rpt not expect French or others to raise matter in NAC December 1 but we should be prepared should, as seems likely, Brosio raise it at first meeting of Steering Committee/ ^{Dec 7.} END COMMENT.

~~Inf~~ In further discussion with MISSOFF, Busch pressed hard for distribution of SYG and McNamara's remarks to the "Outer Four". Since France and other non-members had right to join Special Committee at any time, why should they be denied documents of a NAC ~~committee~~ committee? Moreover, Busch thought on a personal basis that the NATO Nuclear Committee on which all members sat could be a logical steering committee for the Working Groups that had been set up by the Special Committee.

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-3-

MISOFF took line that Special Committee and its three Working Groups of five members each was designed to insure the development of practical recommendations for improvements in the field of nuclear planning, communications, and consultation which would come before NAC for decision. On a personal basis, he doubted whether Nuclear Committee could play a useful role at this stage and recalled Steering Committee had already been set up by Special Committee.

COMMENT: Busch displayed a great deal of nervousness over indications of a hardening of the French line toward the Special Committee.

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