

8/10 (6)

10 August 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

SUBJECT: Conversation with State Department on German Rearmament

1. On 10 August, General Schuyler met with Col Byrads and Col Gerhardt to discuss the German rearmament problem, and specifically to talk over differences in approach between Byrads's plan and G-3's proposal.

2. General Schuyler explained to Col Byrads the detailed NATO organization, including that for military planning, and for production and financing as well. He pointed out the inappropriateness of Col Byrads's original idea for having one American commander as a Czar over both field forces and all economic aspects of the problem as well. Col Byrads readily agreed and indicated his intention to modify his plan to propose an American commander for field forces only.

3. After some further discussion, Col Byrads further agreed that German divisions, organized as such, might well be integrated into the NATO forces as now planned, provided only an American commander for these forces were set up in the near future.

4. Reference Byrads's objection to the G-3 proposal for controlled German rearmament, it developed that this objection stemmed entirely from a misunderstanding of terms. Byrads thought that our term applied solely to a limitation on numbers and types of divisions. When informed that we also contemplated as part of the control a very definite limit as to the types and quantities of materiel and equipment which Germany should manufacture, Byrads said he was in complete accord.

5. Col Byrads showed Gen Schuyler a memo for record by the Secretary of Defense indicating that in a recent talk with the President, the latter had given his general approval to the idea of creating German military units for incorporation into some form of an Army for the defense of Western Europe as a whole. The memo also indicated that the Secretary of Defense intends to present a paper on this subject shortly to the NSC. Commenting further on this last point, Byrads stated that he is initiating such a paper and will coordinate the draft thoroughly with G-3 in an effort to meet fully our ideas before the paper takes final form. He indicated specifically, however, that the paper will stipulate as a condition for creation of German units that such units must be integrated into a European force which will have an American commander.

C. V. R. S.

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