

China, Dahomey, Ecuador, Finland, France, India, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Nigeria, Poland, Spain, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Arab Republic, the United States of America, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

### Subsection 3.—Canada and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization\*

There were two Ministerial Meetings held during 1964, and meetings at NATO headquarters in Paris of the Permanent Representatives of the North Atlantic Council were held continuously throughout the year.

The annual spring meeting was held in The Hague from May 12-14, attended by the Foreign Ministers of the NATO Alliance. The Canadian Delegation was led by the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Ministers discussed the annual political appraisal of the state of the Alliance and emphasized the role of the Atlantic Alliance as the indispensable guardian of security and peace, and thus as the prerequisite for social and economic progress. The NATO Council reaffirmed that a just and peaceful solution to the problem of Germany can be reached only on the basis of the right of self-determination, and agreed that every suitable opportunity should be taken to bring nearer to realization the wish of the German people for reunification in freedom, and thereby ensure an enduring peace in Central Europe.

NATO Ministers expressed their concern at the situation in the southeastern region of NATO arising from the continuing disorders in Cyprus. They reaffirmed the full support of their governments for the action decided upon by the United Nations Organization with a view to restoring law and order, and for the efforts of the mediator appointed by the United Nations to seek an agreed solution of the problem.

Ministers expressed their deep regret at the impending departure of Mr. Dirk U. Stikker, who announced his intention of retiring from the Secretary-Generalship of NATO. The Council invited Signor Manlio Brosio, former Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister in the Italian Government and the present Italian Ambassador in Paris, to become Secretary-General in succession to Mr. Stikker as from Aug. 1, 1964. Signor Brosio informed the NATO Council of his acceptance of this invitation.

The annual Ministerial Meeting held in Paris Dec. 15-17 was attended by a Canadian Delegation led by the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of National Defence. Ministers surveyed the whole field of East-West relations and noted that recent developments in China and the Soviet Union had increased the uncertainties with which the world is faced. They reiterated their conviction that it remained essential for the Alliance to maintain and strengthen its unity. Ministers also reviewed the situation in various areas in Asia, Africa and Latin America. They reaffirmed their interest in the stability of those areas in the economic and social welfare of the peoples concerned.

In their discussions on the state and future progress of the Alliance, Ministers emphasized the importance of strengthening and deepening their political consultation. Recognizing the challenges that may face NATO in the years ahead, they directed the Council in Permanent Session to study the state of the Alliance and the purposes and objectives commonly accepted, and to keep Ministers informed.

Ministers expressed their conviction that the unity and military preparedness of the Alliance had safeguarded peace and preserved the freedom of the West in the past. So long as general and complete disarmament under effective international control has not been achieved, any weakening of the Allied defensive posture would expose the Alliance to increased pressures. Ministers therefore stressed the importance of maintaining the cohesion of member states in the strategic as well as the political field. Ministers also examined the problems concerning the Alliance in the field of conventional and nuclear weapons. A thorough exchange of views on these problems took place and will be continued. Ministers reaffirmed the significance they attached to the studies of the interrelated questions of

\* The terms of the Treaty and the organization of the Council and subordinate committees are dealt with in the 1954 Year Book at pp. 113-115. A short review of the events leading up to the establishment of NATO and its subsequent membership is given in the 1960 Year Book at p. 167.