

Military Representatives Committee, to assign officers to the Planning Group, and to supply some arms and training assistance to certain of the States of the Middle East area in furtherance of the objectives of the organization. During the initial phase of the organization with which the United Kingdom memorandum is concerned, the Government of the United States does not contemplate any further contributions beyond those listed above, and its agreement to participate in the proposed organization does not imply any commitment to supply forces to the area for its defense.

2. In the view of the United States Government, the building of an effective defense of the Middle East involves a political as well as a military problem. In the absence of the political cooperation of the Arab States, the solution of the purely military problem will be immeasurably more difficult. In a sense, therefore, the political problem is anterior and the United States Government considers that the proposals of the United Kingdom should be judged in large measure by the effectiveness with which they may be expected to contribute to its solution.

3. With the exceptions noted in paragraphs 4 and 5 below, the Government of the United States agrees to the United Kingdom proposals relating to the form and character of the organization. This Government would, however, be prepared to consider modifications in the structure of the organization which might increase its appeal to the Arab States.

4. Subparagraph 4(d) of the United Kingdom memorandum lists among the functions of the Middle East Defense Organization, "To make plans for the operations in war of all forces within, or to be introduced into, the area. . ."³ In the opinion of the United States Government, this language should be so amended as to make it clear that this function does not include the drawing of plans for the operations in war of forces which may be introduced into the area but which are not specifically allocated for the defense of the area.

5. Paragraph 6 of the United Kingdom memorandum states that the Military Representatives Committee would be "responsible for the general direction of the Planning Group." Paragraph 8 of the memorandum, however, states that "members of the Military Representatives Committee and of the Planning Group would obtain direction and guidance from their respective governments." The Government of the United States considers that it should be clearly specified that the Planning Group would receive military guidance from the Military Representatives Committee, the members of

³ Ellipsis in the source text.