

September 19, 1944

Memorandum Discussing Joint Military Organization

Citation:

"Memorandum Discussing Joint Military Organization", September 19, 1944, Wilson Center Digital Archive, Container 174, W. Averell Harriman Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

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Summary:

Stalin and Harriman discuss the benefits of a joint military organization as the troops to the East and West of Germany move closer together.

Original Language:

English

Contents:

Original Scan
Transcript - English

CONF 118 174, W. A. Harrison papers, LOC

44 G-2C

Memo re Stalin
Harrison, Conversation

303

44 09 19 about
44 06 20 check

~~SECRET~~

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

- Retain classification Change/classify to _____
 - With concurrence of _____
 - Declassify in part and excuse as shown
- EO 12358, Sec. 1.3 (a) (1) _____
- APPROVED BY: *gml* 6130 RD

with Marshall
Stalin Sept. 23

INTRODUCED:

On June 30 in a conversation between Marshal Stalin and the American Ambassador the necessity was discussed for close collaboration between the Red Army in the East and the Allied Forces in the West when their attacks converged on Germany. Mr. Harrison explained that General Marshall and General Eisenhower felt that the need for collaboration was not at that time immediate, but that as the Soviet and Allied forces came closer together the necessity would become more and more urgent. Marshal Stalin agreed that collaboration between these armed forces would be necessary and stated that a small group or staff should be set up at the proper time through which collaboration could be effected. The American Ambassador reported this conversation to the President and the United States Chiefs of Staff.

The United States Chiefs of Staff have now directed General Beane to propose the immediate establishment of a tripartite committee in Moscow which would act as a consultative and advisory body for their respective Chiefs of Staff. For membership, they propose a high-ranking member of the Red Army General Staff and the Chiefs of the

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of the British and United States Military Missions in Moscow. They emphasize that the committee should of course have no independent powers of decision but should discuss in detail all strategical and operational matters of mutual concern and submit recommendations to their respective Chiefs of Staff. They further emphasize that the committee should not impinge on matters now being handled by the European Advisory Committee, such as civil affairs and so forth.

General Deane is submitting the proposal to the Red Army General Staff in accordance with his instructions, and the Head of the British Military Mission has had instructions from his Chiefs of Staff to submit a similar proposal.

It is hoped that a procedure along the lines of the above can be established in the very near future.

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MEMORANDUM:

On June 20 in a conversation between Marshal Stalin and the American Ambassador the necessity was discussed for close collaboration between the Red Army in the East and the Allied forces in the West when their attack converged on Germany. Mr. Harriman explained that General Marshall and General Eisenhower felt that the need for collaboration was not at that time immediate, but that as the Soviet and Allied forces came closer together the necessity would become more and more urgent. Marshal Stalin agreed that collaboration between these armed forces would be necessary and stated that a small group or staff should be set up at the proper time through which collaboration could be effected. The American Ambassador reported this conversation to the President and the United States Chiefs of Staff.

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