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MESSAGE

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
STAFF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE

NR : EC 9-5302

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prepared tripartite airlift contingency plans to meet four possible situations, which could occur separately or jointly, as a result of Soviet actions. These plans are:

- A. Tripartite Operation Plan, Civil Airlift, 24 July 1959.
- B. Tripartite Operation Plan, Garrison Airlift, 24 Nov 1958. *with?*
- C. Tripartite Operation Plan, Triple Play, 18 June 1959.
- D. Quadripartite Berlin Airlift Plan (QBAL), 9 April 1959.

3. A study of these plans indicates the need for a centralized authority to review and control the plans and to coordinate their implementation. This is particularly true for the more complex plans cited in paragraphs 2C and D, above.

4. I am in a good position to act as your agent in reviewing and coordinating these plans, initiating their implementation when directed by the three governments and maintaining operational control of their execution. If you agree with my being given this responsibility, I intend delegating to the Commander in Chief, United States Air Forces in Europe, the authority to coordinate planning for these military airlift operations and to exercise operational control over the airlifts if they are executed.

*/s/* Lauris Norstad  
General USAF

ACTION: CJCS

DA IN 251989

(6 Oct 59)

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