

FOIA Marker

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National Security Council - European Affairs

Volker, Kurt - Subject Files

Stack:	Row:	Sect.:	Shelf:	Pos.:	FRC ID:	Location or Hollinger ID:	NARA Number:	OA Number:
V	17	8	10	1	34839	47593		NSC 0602

Folder Title:

ESDP (European Security and Defense Policy) [Folder 1] [4]

Withdrawn/Redacted Material

The George W. Bush Library

DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
035	Report	[Report]	4	N.D.	P1/b1;
036	Letter	[Letter]	1	11/20/2001	P1/b1; P5;
036a	Report	[Letters]	1	11/23/2001	P1/b1;
036b	Report	Decision Sheet	3	11/23/2001	P1/b1;
038	Chart	[Chart]	1	N.D.	P1/b1; P5;
039	Fax Cover Sheet	Cover Sheet	1	11/13/2001	P1/b1;
039a	Memorandum	[Memorandum]	2	11/13/2001	P1/b1;
040	Fax Cover Sheet	[Draft Text]	1	11/26/2001	P5;

COLLECTION TITLE:

National Security Council - European Affairs

SERIES:

Volker, Kurt - Subject Files

FOLDER TITLE:

ESDP (European Security and Defense Policy) [Folder 1] [4]

FRC ID:

34839

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

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040a	Letter	[Draft Letter]	1	11/26/2001	P1/b1; P5;
040b	Letter	[Letter]	2	11/23/2001	P1/b1;
040c	Report	[Report]	7	11/26/2001	P1/b1;
041	Email	[Memorandum]	2	09/07/2001	P1/b1; P5;
042	Declaration	[Report]	2	N.D.	P1/b1;
042a	Report	[Report]	2	11/23/2001	P1/b1;
043	Report	[Report]	7	11/26/2001	P1/b1;
044	Presentation	[Presentation]	15	N.D.	P1/b1;

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045	Report	Discussion Paper	6	N.D.	P1/b1; P5;
046	Report	Discussion Paper	6	N.D.	P1/b1; P5;
048	Report	Discussion Paper	6	N.D.	P1/b1; P5;
049	Report	[Report]	6	01/28/2002	P1/b1;

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Letter	[Letter]	1	11/20/2001	P1/b1; P5;

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Report	[Letters]	1	11/23/2001	P1/b1;

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Report	Decision Sheet	3	11/23/2001	P1/b1;

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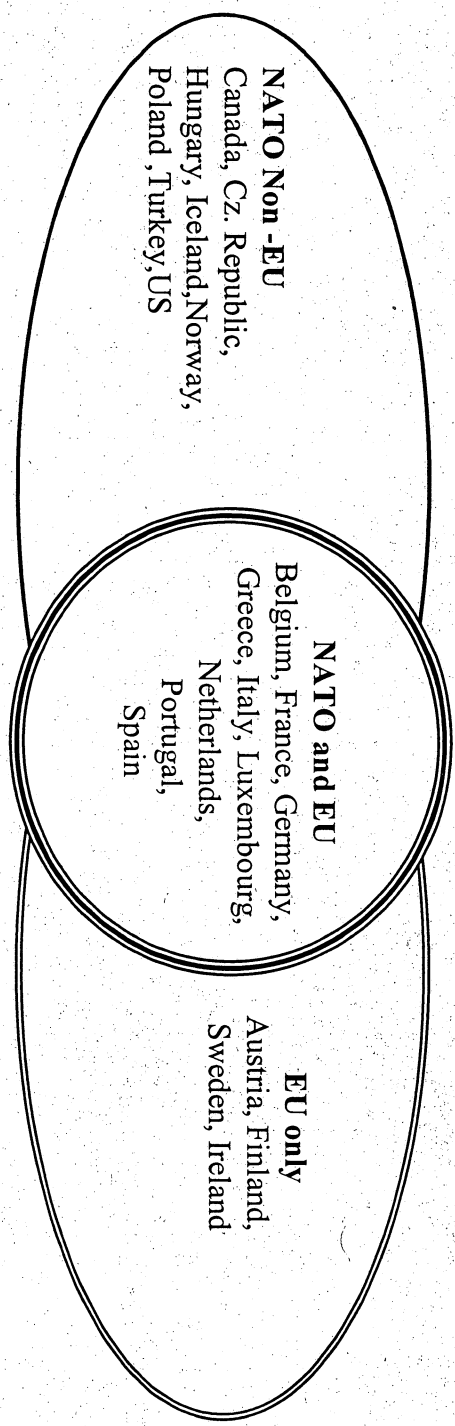
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NATO and ESDP



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Chart	[Chart]	1	N.D.	P1/b1; P5;

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FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Letter	[Draft Letter]	1	11/26/2001	P1/b1; P5;

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National Security Council - European Affairs

SERIES:

Volker, Kurt - Subject Files

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ESDP (European Security and Defense Policy) [Folder 1] [4]

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NARA Num.:

FOIA IDs and Segments:

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Report	[Report]	7	11/26/2001	P1/b1;

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Email	[Memorandum]	2	09/07/2001	P1/b1; P5;

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Declaration	[Report]	2	N.D.	P1/b1;

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FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
Presentation	[Presentation]	15	N.D.	P1/b1;

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France Edges Closer to U.S. on Defense

Joseph Fitchett International Herald Tribune
Thursday, January 31, 2002

PARIS Defense Minister Alain Richard, outlining a surprisingly cooperative approach to a series of often contentious issues with Washington, said Wednesday that he hoped the Bush administration would back plans for European forces to take charge of peacekeeping in Macedonia next summer.

The Macedonia operation would be the first full-fledged joint military action under the command of European officers. It would remain under North Atlantic Treaty Organization auspices, according to Mr. Richard.

"If Washington expressed vocally that they found it appropriate for the EU to take over, it would solve 70 percent of our persuasion problem" with wary European nations, Mr. Richard said.

The Bush administration seems likely to support the request, since it has in the past called for U.S. forces to be reassigned from peacekeeping in the former Yugoslavia to more active missions.

The venture "would be a good prototype of what Europeans should be able to do" in managing security problems, Mr. Richard said, while maintaining the key guarantees - such as access to U.S. satellite intelligence and NATO backup forces in a crisis - that have been set out in a blueprint for joint task forces between NATO and the European Union.

On other defense matters ranging from the campaign in Afghanistan to missile defense and space-based sensors, Mr. Richard indicated that French leaders expected to work with, and often depend on, U.S. power on vital security issues affecting EU growth.

In a 90-minute interview, Mr. Richard rarely voiced the suspicions or even hostility toward U.S. power that frequently dominate French discussions of international defense issues.

Mr. Richard, who was speaking to editors and the CEO of the International Herald Tribune at the paper's headquarters in Paris, also said that French intelligence believed that Osama bin Laden was still alive, probably still in Afghanistan or in tribal areas of neighboring Pakistan. But Al Qaeda has been badly crippled by the U.S. military drive in Afghanistan, according to Mr. Richard.

At the terrorist organization's core, he said, "those people able to order high-level actions have been interrupted for a long time."

His sharpest policy warning to Washington concerned possible U.S. military action in Iraq. "Whatever the outcome, the United States would have to weigh possible changes in its alignments with many other countries," Mr. Richard said. He suggested there would be a broad backlash among U.S. allies if the Bush administration launched a military invasion to overthrow President Saddam Hussein's government.

In a milder reproof, he chided Washington for one-sided practices in Western intelligence-sharing about terrorism.

More broadly, however, he endorsed U.S. military unilateralism in the Afghan war. "There were overwhelming arguments for the United States to handle that action by itself with little involvement by allies," he said, citing the Kosovo conflict as a lesson for all allied governments about the risk of delays in battlefield decisions liable to arise from the need for consultations with allies.

On two questions that have recently roiled trans-Atlantic relations - U.S. plans for a missile



defense and Europe's ambitions to built its own space-based global positioning system - Mr. Richard suggested that French views were changing in the light of practical security considerations.

He said, for example, that he saw no compelling military case for Europe to launch its own fleet of satellites to match the GPS network already in space and used in Afghanistan to target precision-guided bombs.

Asked if he meant that Europe trusted the United States to provide digital guidance for European weapons in a crisis, Mr. Richard replied that France would be investing in its own system if it had doubts about U.S. reliability in this regard.

"Our acts are answering," he said, implying that Europe was unlikely to proceed with the \$3 billion investment in the so-called Galileo satellite network.

Vocal in the past in its objections to U.S. plans for an anti-missile shield, France has said little about the Bush administration's plan since Washington announced last fall that it was proceeding with the project, apparently with scant opposition from Moscow.

Mr. Richard said that Western unity would be jeopardized if Washington enjoyed a unique degree of security that was denied to its allies. A solution, he indicated, might lie in agreement sometime in the future whereby U.S.-built missile defenses also covered European countries. If such an offer were made, he said, there might be "no point in opposing it." The cost of any European financial contribution to sharing such a missile defense system would be a factor in France's thinking, he said.

In any case, he added, the U.S. program is most likely to remain largely in the experimental phase for at least a decade.

IHT

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