SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE DISARMAMENT COMMISSION

MEMORANDUM BY THE DELEGATIONS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND FRANCE

Reductions of Armed Forces

The United Kingdom and France consider that there should be major reductions in the armed forces of the five permanent members of the Security Council. To this end they are each prepared to reduce their overall armed forces to a total of 650,000 men, as part of a general scheme of reductions which would provide that:

(1) There shall be a uniform ceiling for the three other permanent members of the Security Council which shall be fixed at a figure between one and one and a half million men.
(2) The forces permitted to other States shall in all cases be considerably lower than the levels established for the five permanent members of the Security Council.
(3) No State shall be entitled to increase its armed forces above the levels existing at the entry into force of the disarmament convention, except that special arrangements will have to be made for certain specified States which will provide for levels of armed forces and armaments such as will reduce the possibility of aggression and avoid a disequilibrium of power dangerous to international peace and security.