

4 January 1968

Dear General Wheeler,

Mr. Helms regrets that he will not be able to accept your invitation of 18 December 1967 to participate in EPSILON I-68.

In accordance with your suggestion, he has asked me to represent CIA in the war game.

With warmest personal regards,

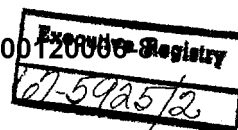
Sincerely,

Rufus Taylor
Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy

General Earle G. Wheeler
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Department of Defense
Washington, D. C.

Originated: EA/DDCI;mfb
Distribution:
Orig - Addressee
lcc - DDP/Planning Support Staff
lcc - DDCI
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JCS review(s)
completed.



8 JAN 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Politico-Military Division, JCS

SUBJECT: CIA Participants in EPSILON I-68

25X1 1. Confirming [redacted] telephone conversation with Commander Joseph W. Benn on 8 January 1968, the following Agency members have been designated as players in EPSILON I-68:



- 25X1
- US Departmental Level (BLUE)
 - Warsaw Pact (RED)
 - Control Group.

2. All players now have, or will have, the Top Secret - COSMIC security clearances in time for the game.

3. The Deputy Director of Central Intelligence, Vice Admiral Rufus L. Taylor, has given notice of his participation on the US National Command Authority Team by separate memorandum.

FOR THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR PLANS:

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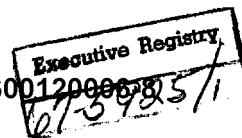
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cc: Ex. Asst/DDCI

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December 28, 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: JCS Political-Military Game, EPSILON I-68

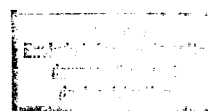
1. Since the receipt of General Wheeler's letter of December 18th other Senior officials who have indicated their intention to participate in EPSILON I-68 are Ambassador Parker T. Hart (Turkey), General Burchinal, General Preston, Admiral McCain and Vice Admiral Lee.

2. Action level teams meeting at Wiesbaden on 22, 24 and 26 January 1968 will be designated as follow:

a. **NATO POLITICAL:** Composed of political-military officers from the U. S. Embassies in France, Great Britain, Germany, Italy, Greece, Turkey and the U. S. Mission to NATO. This team will consider problem situations from three viewpoints: (1) as an International Organization; (2) as individual foreign governments; (3) as the representatives of the U. S. Government stationed in various foreign countries.

b. **NATO MILITARY:** Composed of military officers from the U. S. Military Committee, NATO, SHAPE, SACEUR, AFCEM, AFSOUTH, USAREUR, USAFE and USNAVEUR. This team will consider problem situations from two viewpoints: (1) as an International Military Force; (2) as U. S. Military Forces stationed abroad.

3. Telephone conferences will be conducted at 1200 Washington time (1800 Wiesbaden time) on 22, 24 and 26 January between the BLUE Action Team (National Command Authorities) at Washington and the two Action Teams at Wiesbaden. Data obtained from Europe will be reflected in the BLUE Team briefing of the Senior NCA Team on the same date, from 1630-1800.



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4. Wiesbaden Action Teams will TWX decisions and supporting data to the Control Team in Washington at the conclusion of each game session.

5. The Control Team will TWX scenario projections to the Wiesbaden Action Teams at the conclusion of each Control Team meeting.

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[REDACTED]
CIA Liaison Officer for Political-
Military Games

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cc: Ex. Asst/DDCI

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ER 67-5925/a

26 December 1967

Dear General Wheeler,

This is an interim response to your invitation of 13 December 1967 to Mr. Helms concerning EPSILON I-68. As Dick is currently out of the city, I am not able to indicate whether he will be able to participate. Should he not be available and subject to his concurrence, I will be happy to represent CIA as you have suggested. We will advise you further on this point.

We will nominate action-level and Control players to the EPSILON Project Officer.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,

Rufus Taylor
Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy

General Earle G. Wheeler
Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
Department of Defense
Washington, D. C.

DEC 28 4 02 PM '67

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ER w/cy basic

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THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

Executive Registry

18 December 1967

Dear Dick:

The next interagency, politico-military game is EPSILON I-68. It will address problems associated with NATO's transition from peace to war, with primary focus on the Southeastern flank. This approach was proposed with a view to examining command, control and coordination relationships within the Alliance, as well as US national channels. The game will be conducted concurrently in Washington and Wiesbaden, Germany. Ambassadors Bohlen, Bruce, Cleveland, McGhee, Reinhardt and Talbot; General Lemnitzer and Admiral Ward; and other senior personnel have indicated they will attend the final move and critique in Wiesbaden.

This game will depart from the usual format for these exercises in that the Blue or US team, meeting in the Pentagon, will communicate during its meetings with individuals in the role of key US personnel in the NATO Council, US Embassies, US component commands and the NATO military structure. The game should point up some of the very real problems of coordinating policy and strategy under crisis conditions, especially with respect to the deployment and possible employment of nuclear demolition munitions. This "US-only," politico-military game is expected to deal more realistically with certain key political considerations than would be possible in the HIGH HEELS or FALLEX type of exercise. Ambassador Cleveland is considering the possibility of conducting a similar politico-military game in the future, with Allied participation, as part of NATO nuclear planning and consultative procedures.

EPSILON I-68 has been structured with a view to having interested members of the Senior Interdepartmental Group or their representatives participate as the US National Command Authority team, meeting from 1630 to 1800 hours on Monday, 22; Wednesday, 24;

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and Friday, 26 January. Two final critiques will be conducted: one for senior participants in Europe on Sunday, 28 January, and another for senior participants in Washington on Thursday, 1 February 1968.

You are cordially invited to participate but, in the event you are unable to do so, it is hoped that you will designate Vice Admiral Rufus L. Taylor as the senior Central Intelligence Agency representative.

In addition to your own participation, I hope you will provide your usual fine complement of key people to serve on action-level teams and Control. The desired number of participants is indicated in the administrative enclosure which also contains detailed information regarding the game for use by your agency point of contact.

The Joint War Games Agency is prepared, at your convenience, to brief you in detail on the purposes and scope of EPSILON I-68. If you desire further information, please contact Colonel Thomas J. McDonald, USA, Chief, Politico-Military Division, JWGA (OXford 5-3715 or 5-3705).

Sincerely,

Bles

EARLE G. WHEELER
Chairman
Joint Chiefs of Staff

Enclosure
a/s

The Honorable Richard M. Helms
Director, Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

JOINT WAR GAMES AGENCY

15 December 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR AGENCY OFFICIAL COORDINATING EPSILON I-68

Subject: Game Requirements (U)

1. (S-NF) GENERAL. EPSILON I-68 is a senior-level, interagency, politico-military game to be conducted in the Pentagon and in Headquarters USAFE, Wiesbaden, Germany during the period 19 and 28 January 1968. Final Critiques will be held in Wiesbaden on 28 January, for US European participants and in Washington on 1 February, for local participants.

a. The game will address a hypothetical crisis situation on the Southeastern NATO flank in which deployment and, possibly, employment of atomic demolition munitions may come into play. It should provide a dynamic setting, encompassing political, military, economic and psychological considerations involved in the complex situation facing the United States in Europe today.

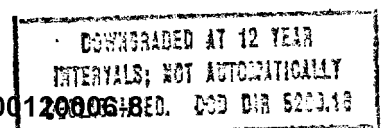
b. This memorandum contains administrative planning information for Washington participants. Pre-game briefings for action-level players and Control members will be conducted on Friday, 19 January 1968. US European participants will be briefed in Wiesbaden on Sunday, 21 January 1968.

c. A Fact Book, containing specific administrative details and other relevant information, will be distributed to participants prior to the game.

2. (U) PLAYER NOMINATIONS. Addressees are requested to submit the names of Washington participant nominees to the EPSILON Project Officer, Commander Joseph W. Benn, USN, by telephone prior to 10 January 1968 (OXford 7-9860 or 7-9892).

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a. The number of participants for senior-level teams is outlined in Attachment #1. In the event individuals suggested are unable to attend, alternate nominations would be appreciated.

b. The number of participants for action-level teams and the Control element is outlined in Attachment #2. These players should be nominated from the rank of Lt Colonel/Commander to Major General/Rear Admiral (or civilian equivalent) who are highly knowledgeable of the problem area involved. Rank is secondary to expert knowledge.

3. (S-NF) SCHEDULE. Teams will meet according to the following schedule in locations indicated:

a. Action-level players (Washington).

(1) Pre-game briefings will be conducted in Room BC-942A, the Pentagon, on 19 January as follows:

(a) Blue (National Command Authority Team)
0930-1030 hours.

(b) Red (Warsaw Pact Team) 1100-1200 hours.

(2) 1030-1900 hours, 22, 24 and 26 January, Room BC-942A, the Pentagon, for team deliberations.

(3) 1030-1200 hours, 1 February, Room 5C-1040, the Pentagon, for action-level critique.

(4) 1400-1530 hours, 1 February, Room 5C-1040, the Pentagon, for senior-level critique.

b. Senior-level players (Washington).

(1) 1630-1800 hours, 22, 24 and 26 January, Room BC-942A, for team deliberations. Guides will be available at the Pentagon River Entrance.

(2) 1400-1530 hours, 1 February, Room 5C-1040, the Pentagon, for senior-level critique. Guides will be available at the Pentagon River Entrance.

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c. Control players (Washington).

(1) 1300-1400 hours, 19 January, Room BC-942A, the Pentagon, for pre-game briefing.

(2) 0900-1600 hours, 23, 25 and 27 January, Room BC-942A, the Pentagon, for Control meetings.

(3) 1030-1200 hours, 1 February, Room 5C-1040, the Pentagon, for action-level critique.

(4) 1400-1530 hours, 1 February, Room 5C-1040, the Pentagon, for senior-level critique.

4. (U) PRE-GAME RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION. The EPSILON Project Officer has or will contact your office during the next month to obtain:

a. Suggestions on persons to be interviewed.

b. Suggestions for reading -- studies, intelligence documents, reports, plans (both official and unofficial), books, magazines, and other pertinent source material.

c. Ideas for introduction into the initial scenario or for Control use during the game, to enhance the interest level and overall value of the exercise.

5. (U) SECURITY.

a. The title of the game, EPSILON I-68, is UNCLASSIFIED when mentioned without geographic or subject reference. Discussion on the area/scope or content of the game is classified SECRET-NOFORN.

b. Game deliberations will be conducted on a TOP SECRET-COSMIC level.

c. Addressees are requested to certify in writing as to TOP SECRET-COSMIC security clearances of Washington participants. Forward to reach the EPSILON Project Officer not later than 15 January 1968.

Attachments

a/s

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EPSILON I-68

SENIOR-LEVEL NATIONAL COMMAND AUTHORITY TEAM

<u>AGENCY</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>SUGGESTED SENIORS</u>
White House	1	Honorable Walt W. Rostow or Mr. Edward R. Fried
State	2	Honorable Nicholas deB. Katzenbach or Honorable Eugene V. Rostow Ambassador Foy D. Kohler or Ambassador Charles E. Bohlen or Mr. John M. Leddy
Treasury	1	Honorable Joseph W. Barr :
CIA	1	Honorable Richard M. Helms or Vice Admiral Rufus L. Taylor
USIA	1	Honorable Leonard H. Marks
OSD	2	Honorable Paul H. Nitze or Honorable Alain C. Enthoven Honorable Paul C. Warnke or Mr. Frederick S. Wyle
JCS	2	General Earle G. Wheeler Vice Admiral Nels C. Johnson

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Attachment #1

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ACTION TEAMS AND CONTROL

<u>PARTICIPATING</u> <u>AGENCY</u>	<u>NATIONAL COMMAND</u> <u>AUTHORITY -- BLUE</u>	<u>WARSAW PACT</u> <u>RED</u>	<u>CONTROL</u> <u>GROUP</u>
WHITE HOUSE	1		
STATE	2	1	1
CIA	1	1	1
OSD	1		
OSD (ISA)	1	1	1
JCS (CSG)	1		
JCS (J-3)	1	1	
JCS (J-5)	1	1	
JCS (JCCRG)			1
DIA	1	1	
WSEG			2
ARMY		1	
NAVY		1	
AIR FORCE		1	
MARINE CORPS		1	
USNATO			1
USEUCOM			1
USNMR SHAPE			1
CONSULTANTS	1		1
JWGA	1	1	1
TOTAL	12	11	11

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ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

MPS/PSG
2C32

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

28 Dec 1967

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. Ex. Asst./DDCI

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FROM:

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Room 2C32

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DATE

RECEIVED

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OFFICER'S
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1. Ex. Asst/DDCI
Room 7D5615

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