

REPRODUCTION

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Talepunkter til udenrigsministerens  
samtale med Lord Carrington den 16.11.1979

I appreciate very much to have this opportunity to discuss with you the most important question for the alliance at this time, namely the modernization of NATO's long range Theater Nuclear Forces (TNF).

Great Britain enjoys a special position in being the only nuclear power among the European member states of NATO, which are participating in the considerations on TNF - modernization and TNF-arms control.

Denmark (and Norway) has a position so to speak in the opposite end of the scale as we do not under the present circumstances accept the stationing of nuclear arms on Danish territory.

I understand that the matter has not raised so much **discussion** in Britain as has been the case in **other** European NATO-countries. I also understand that the British government has taken the decision to support an alliance decision along the lines presented in NATO, which involve the stationing of a number of the new weapons in Britain.

In Denmark a public debate has started in the press and has now also been raised in the Parliament, where the Radical Liberals, who are against the TNF-modernization, have asked for a debate which will take place on November 27.

The Government is now in the process of preparing itself for this debate and for a subsequent discussion and decision in time before the NATO-meeting on December 12.

The government is of the opinion that it would have been worthwhile considering to postpone a decision in principle on TNF-modernization until negotiations with the Soviet Union have taken place.

As we approach the matter today it seems, however, that we may be able to support a modernization decision based on the following assumptions:

that countries in which the new weapons are going to be stationed are prepared to approve of the modernization proposal,

that a modernization decision will be followed by a concrete arms control proposal, and

that the traditional Danish policy of not accepting nuclear arms on Danish territory under present circumstances will continue to be respected.

It seems as if these assumptions more or less will be fulfilled. As we find, however, that the arms control proposal before us is not specific enough we have taken this matter up in NATO in two respects:

First: It must be made clear that the TINF arms control negotiations with the Soviet Union shall be initiated immediately after the decision to modernize NATO's TINF - also in the situation where SALT II has not been ratified.

Secondly: Substantial results stemming from arms control negotiations on TINF should lead to a reduction, adjusted to the negotiated result, in the number of the new TINF weapons, the deployment of which is envisaged to begin a couple of years from now (the proposal as of now is in our view too weak on this point).

In the discussion in NATO last week we made these two points clear and a final discussion will take place at another NATO meeting on November 28. I hope that your government will be able to support these views.