

De Gaulle Berated By Ball on Divisive Deals With Russia

By John Maffre

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AUGUSTA, Ga. June 20 — Under Secretary of State George W. Ball berated President de Gaulle of France here today for dealing separately with Moscow when unity is needed to "heal the wounds of Europe" from World War II.

The Under Secretary's pointed criticism of de Gaulle, whom he did not name, came as Ball's boss, Secretary Dean Rusk, was in Europe trying to hold the NATO alliance together.

Ball said that next week's NATO ministerial meeting in Brussels must deal with grave problems raised by France's "national policy to extend the position of France apart and separate from the position of other European states."

He spoke before the annual meeting of the State Bar of Georgia.

In an obvious reference to de Gaulle's forthcoming Moscow visit, Ball said it was wrong "for each nation-state to pursue its own policy with Moscow, to deal with the Soviets for its own interests."

By comparison, Ball spoke often and warmly of "our French friends" such as Jean Monnet and Robert Schumann, who had labored for the European Common Market and the European Steel and Coal Community.

In Washington, Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara said there was "absolutely no foundation" for a report in the London Times that the United States planned to withdraw all but one division

of its equivalent of six Army divisions from West Germany.

("There are no plans for the withdrawal of any major American combat units from Europe," McNamara stated. He added that such erroneous reports are "damaging" to Western unity.

(In another development, Chairman J. W. Fulbright (D-Ark.) of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee announced that former White House aide McGeorge Bundy would be the leadoff witness on June 20 at the Committee's hearings on U.S. policy toward NATO.)