



Inngangan í NATO, skjöl 1949-1964 m.a. bréf, fundir, dagskrár fyrir undirskriftina 4. apríl 1949.

Bjarni Benediktsson – Stjórnámál – Utanríkismál – Skjöl – Dagskrá – Fréttatilkynning – NATO – Norður
Atlantshafsbandalagið - 1949

Tekið af vef Borgarskjalasafnsins

bjarnibenediktsson.is

Einkaskjalasafn nr. 360
Stjórnámálamaðurinn
Askja 2-10 Örk 6

©Borgarskjalasafn Reykjavíkur



THE SIGNING OF THE

NORTH
ATLANTIC
TREATY

WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 4, 1949

Bjarni Benediktsson
Thor Thors

THE SIGNING
OF THE
North Atlantic Treaty



WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE DEPARTMENTAL AUDITORIUM

APRIL 4, 1949 - 3:00 P. M.

Program

Remarks by the Honorable Dean Acheson,
Secretary of State of the United States of America

Remarks by His Excellency Paul-Henri Spaak,
Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belgium

Remarks by the Honorable Lester B. Pearson,
Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada

Remarks by His Excellency Gustav Rasmussen,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Denmark

Remarks by His Excellency Robert Schuman,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the French Republic

Remarks by the Honorable Bjarni Benediktsson,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iceland

Remarks by His Excellency Count Carlo Sforza,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy

Remarks by His Excellency Joseph Bech,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Luxembourg

Program

Remarks by His Excellency D. U. Stikker,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands

Remarks by His Excellency Halvard M. Lange,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway

Remarks by His Excellency Dr. José Cacirola da Matta,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Portugal

Remarks by the Right Honorable Ernest Bevin,
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Kingdom

Address by the President of the United States of America

The Signing of the Treaty

Adjournment

*Musical Selections by the United States Marine Band Orchestra under the direction of
Major William F. Santelmann*

List of Signers

- BELGIUM:** P. H. Spaak, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs
Baron Silvercruys, Ambassador to the United States
- CANADA:** Lester B. Pearson, Secretary of State for External Affairs
H. H. Wrong, Ambassador to the United States
- DENMARK:** Gustav Rasmussen, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Henrik de Kauffmann, Ambassador to the United States
- FRANCE:** Robert Schuman, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Henri Bonnet, Ambassador to the United States
- ICELAND:** Bjarni Benediktsson, Minister for Foreign Affairs
Thor Thors, Minister to the United States
- ITALY:** Count Carlo Sforza, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Alberto Tarchiani, Ambassador to the United States
- LUXEMBOURG:** Joseph Bech, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Hugues Le Gallais, Minister to the United States
- NETHERLANDS:** D. U. Stikker, Minister of Foreign Affairs
E. N. van Kleffens, Ambassador to the United States
- NORWAY:** Halvard M. Lange, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Wilhelm Munthe Morgenstjerne, Ambassador to the United States
- PORTUGAL:** José Caeiro da Matta, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Pedro Theotónio Pereira, Ambassador to the United States
- UNITED KINGDOM:**
Ernest Bevin, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
Sir Oliver Shewell Franks, Ambassador to the United States
- UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:**
Dean Acheson, Secretary of State



THE SIGNING OF THE

NORTH
ATLANTIC
TREATY

WASHINGTON, D. C., APRIL 4, 1949

THE SIGNING
OF THE
North Atlantic Treaty



WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE DEPARTMENTAL AUDITORIUM

APRIL 4, 1949 - 3:00 P.M.

Program

Remarks by the Honorable Dean Acheson,
Secretary of State of the United States of America

Remarks by His Excellency Paul-Henri Spaak,
Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belgium

Remarks by the Honorable Lester B. Pearson,
Secretary of State for External Affairs of Canada

Remarks by His Excellency Gustav Rasmussen,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Denmark

Remarks by His Excellency Robert Schuman,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the French Republic

Remarks by the Honorable Bjarni Benediktsson,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iceland

Remarks by His Excellency Count Carlo Sforza,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Italy

Remarks by His Excellency Joseph Bech,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Luxembourg

Program

Remarks by His Excellency D. U. Stikker,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands

Remarks by His Excellency Halvard M. Lange,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway

Remarks by His Excellency Dr. José Caeiro da Matta,
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Portugal

Remarks by the Right Honorable Ernest Bevin,
Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Kingdom

Address by the President of the United States of America

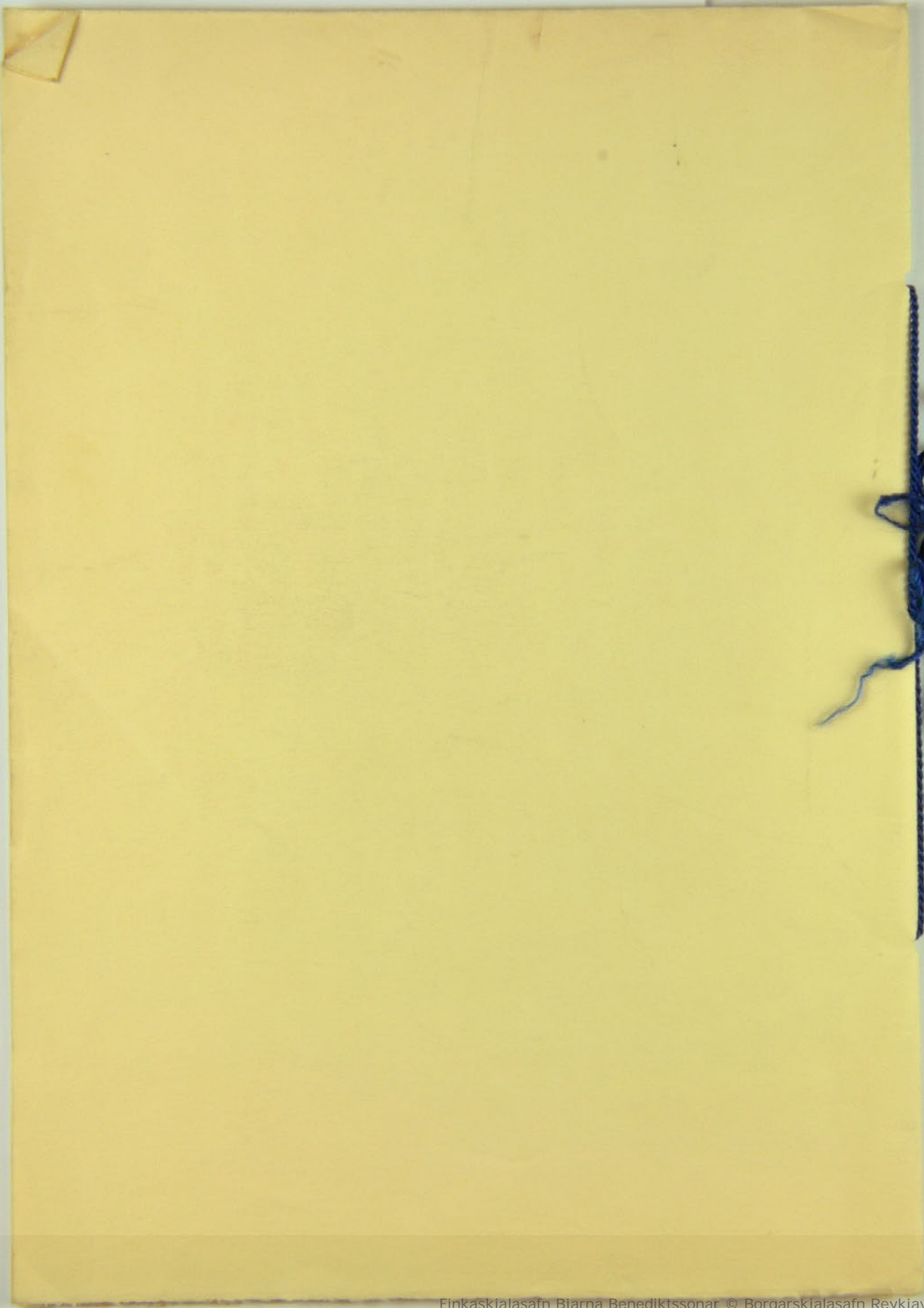
The Signing of the Treaty

Adjournment

*Musical Selections by the United States Marine Band Orchestra under the direction of
Major William F. Santelmann*

List of Signers

- BELGIUM: P. H. Spaak, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs
Baron Silvercruys, Ambassador to the United States
- CANADA: Lester B. Pearson, Secretary of State for External Affairs
H. H. Wrong, Ambassador to the United States
- DENMARK: Gustav Rasmussen, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Henrik de Kauffmann, Ambassador to the United States
- FRANCE: Robert Schuman, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Henri Bonnet, Ambassador to the United States
- ICELAND: Bjarni Benediktsson, Minister for Foreign Affairs
Thor Thors, Minister to the United States
- ITALY: Count Carlo Sforza, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Alberto Tarchiani, Ambassador to the United States
- LUXEMBOURG: Joseph Bech, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Hugues Le Gallais, Minister to the United States
- NETHERLANDS: D. U. Stikker, Minister of Foreign Affairs
E. N. van Kleffens, Ambassador to the United States
- NORWAY: Halvard M. Lange, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Wilhelm Munthe Morgenstjerne, Ambassador to the United States
- PORTUGAL: José Caeiro da Matta, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Pedro Theotónio Pereira, Ambassador to the United States
- UNITED KINGDOM:
Ernest Bevin, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
Sir Oliver Shewell Franks, Ambassador to the United States
- UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:
Dean Acheson, Secretary of State



THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY

Time Schedule for Signing Ceremony
April 4, 1949

Departmental Auditorium,
Constitution Avenue between 12th and 14th Streets

- 2:30 Music, Marine Band Orchestral Unit
- 2:45 Arrival of Foreign Ministers (private West Entrance)
- 3:00 Entrance of Foreign Ministers
- 3:05 Remarks by the Secretary of State

Introduction by the Secretary of each of the Foreign Ministers in alphabetical order before they speak. Each Foreign Minister will speak in the language he chooses and if other than English the interpretations will be given immediately following. Each speech will be approximately five minutes.

Remarks by the Foreign Minister of Belgium, Canada, etc.

- 4:30 Entrance of the President
(approx.)

The Secretary introduces the signers to the President

Address by the President

Signing of the Treaty

Adjournment

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to Their Excellencies and Messieurs the Chiefs of Mission of the countries signing the North Atlantic Treaty at Washington, D. C., and has the honor to present a tentative schedule of events in connection with the signing of the Treaty.

Credentials

Credentials may be deposited in the Office of the Chief, Division of International Conferences, Room 1123, 1778 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. It is requested that credentials be deposited prior to noon Saturday, April 2, 1949.

Private Meeting of the Signatory Powers

A private meeting has been scheduled for the representatives of the Signatory Powers for Saturday,

April 2

April 2 at 11:00 a.m. in Conference Room B, Departmental Auditorium, Constitution Avenue between 12th and 14th Streets. Provisions are being made for two representatives for each country to be seated at the conference table. Accommodations will be available for approximately three others per country near the table. Suggested program for the meeting is attached.

Signing Ceremony

Signing Ceremony will take place in the Departmental Auditorium, Constitution Avenue between 12th and 14th Streets, N.W., Washington, D. C., at 3:00 p.m., April 4, 1949. The program will consist of introductory remarks by the Secretary of State, followed by remarks of the respective Foreign Ministers (in alphabetical order of their countries in the English language, followed by necessary translations), address by the President, and the signing of the Treaty. Attached as enclosure is a time schedule of the Signing Ceremony.

The Ceremony is to have wide radio coverage in the United States and abroad, and it is

Washington, March 30, 1949.

of great

of great importance that the time schedule be strictly adhered to. It will be noted that the Foreign Ministers and other Signers are respectfully requested to arrive at the West Entrance of the Departmental Auditorium by 2:45 p.m.

Inquiries concerning arrangements may be directed to Mr. Clarke L. Willard, Division of International Conferences, Department of State, 1778 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., telephone REpublic 5600, extension 5780.

Enclosures:

1. Suggested program for Private Meeting of Signatory Powers.
2. Time Schedule for Signing Ceremony.

Department of State,

Washington, March 30, 1949.

Fréttatilkynning frá utanríkisráðuneytinu.

R e ð a

Bjarna Benediktssonar utanríkisráðherra við undirskrift Atlantshafssáttmálans.

Þjóðir þær, sem nú eru að ganga í þetta nýja bróðralag, eru að mörgu leyti ólíkar hver annari. Sumar þeirra eru ~~stærri~~ stærri hinar mestu og voldugustu í heimi, aðrar eru smáar og lítill megandi. Engin er þó minni né má sín minna en þjóð mín - íslenska þjóðin. Íslendingar eru vopnlausir og hafa verið vopnlausir síðan á dögum víkinganna, forfeðra okkar. Við höfum engan her og getum ekki haft. Ísland hefir aldrei farið með hernaði gegn nokkru landi, og sem vopnlaust land hvorki getum við né munum segja nokkurri þjóð stríð á hendur, svo sem við lýstum yfir, er við gerðumst ein af sameinuðu þjóðunum. Staðreynd er, að við getum alls ekki verið okkur gegn neinni erlendri, vopnaðri áráa. Við vorum þessvegna í vafa um, hvort við getum gerzt aðilar þessa varnarbandalags. En svo getur staðið á, að Ísland hafi úrslitapýðingu um öryggi landanna við Norðuratlantshaf.

Í síðasta stríði tók Bretland að sér varnir Íslands, og síðan gerðum við samning við stjórn Bandaríkjanna um hervarnir Íslands meðan á stríðinu stóð. Aðild okkar að Norðuratlantshafssamningnum sýnir, að bæði sjálfra okkar vegna og annarra viljum við svipaða skipan og þá á vörnum landsins, ef ný styrjöld brýst út, sem við vonum og biðjum að ekki verði.

En það er ekki aðeins þessi ástæða, sem ráðið hefir afstöðu okkar. Við viljum einnig láta það koma alveg ótvívætt fram, að við tilheyrum og viljum tilheyra því frjálsa samfélagi frjálvera þjóða, sem nú er foralega verið að stofna.

Að vísu er það rétt, sem ég áðan sagði, að aðilar þessa samnings eru ólíkir um margt. En það er einnig margt sem sameinar okkur traustum böndum. Sama hattan ógnar okkur öllum í þeim heimi sem við lifum, þar sem fjarlægðirnar eru horfnar, er það áreiðanlegt, að annaðhvort njóta allir friðar ~~með~~ eða enginn. Sömu upplausnaröflin eru hvarvetna að sinni ómurlugu iðju. Allastaðar áska þau okkur, sem erum að vinna fyrir friðinn, um að við viljum spilla honum. Þegar samningur þessi var ræddur á Alþingi Íslendinga, reyndu þessi öfl með valdi að hindra hina fornhelgu stofnun í starfi sínu. Slíkt ofbeldi hefir aldrei fyrr verið reynt gegn hinu þúsund ára gamla Alþingi Íslendinga. Sá afvegaleiddi hópur, sem þetta reyndi, þóttist með köllum sínum vera að heimta frið. Þetta framferði, að kasta grjóti með höndunum en hrópa á frið með vörunum, er hvorki í samræmi við arfleifð Íslendinga né vestrana menningu. Allir vitum við, hvar slíkir hettir eiga upptök sín. Heiminum stafar sannarlega ekki meiri hætta nú af öðru en þessu hugarfari.

En það er ekki aðeins þessi ógnun við heimsfriðinn og velferð mannkynsins, sem sameinar okkur. Það er heldur ekki einungis það, að lönd okkar eru öll í sama heimahluta. Sterkari bönd tengja okkur saman. Allir tilheyrum við sömu menningunni, allir mundum við fremur kjósa að missa lífið en frelsið, hvort heldur frelsi sjálfra okkar eða þjóða okkar. Allir trúum við á vinsamlega samvinnu þjóða í milli - allir óskum við heiminum friðar og mannkyninu velferðar. ~~með~~

Þessvegna hittumst við hér í dag með góðar vonir í brjósti til að tengjast tryggðaböndum með undirskrift þessa samnings.

Utanríkisráðuneytið,
Reykjavík, 4. apríl 1949.