

Agreement regarding the co-operation between the United Kingdom and the EDC (Paris, 13 April 1954)

Source: Archives Nationales du Luxembourg, Luxembourg. Affaires étrangères. Communauté européenne de défense. Comité interimaire de la Conférence pour l'organisation de la CED. Correspondance diverse 1952-54, AE 11661.

Copyright: All rights of reproduction, public communication, adaptation, distribution or dissemination via Internet, internal network or any other means are strictly reserved in all countries.

The documents available on this Web site are the exclusive property of their authors or right holders.

Requests for authorisation are to be addressed to the authors or right holders concerned.

Further information may be obtained by referring to the legal notice and the terms and conditions of use regarding this site.

URL:

http://www.cvce.eu/obj/agreement_regarding_the_co_operation_between_the_united_kingdom_and_the_edc_paris_13_april_1954-en-c800898d-6143-459a-bdd9-d440aeb670f.html

Publication date: 18/12/2013

Agreement regarding the co operation between the United Kingdom and the EDC (Paris, 13 April 1954)

Military association between the forces of the United Kingdom and the European Defence Community.....
Statement of Common PolicyPart I Common Aims.....
a) Tactical Doctrine and Staff Methods.....
b) Logistics.....
c) Training.....
Part II Measures to be taken by each service for practical collaboration between the forces of the United Kingdom and the European Defence Community.....
Air Force.....
Army.....
Navy.....
Proces verbal.....

The President of the Federal Republic of Germany, His Majesty the King of the Belgians, the President of the French Republic, the President of the Italian Republic, Her. Royal Highness the Grand Duchess of Luxembourg, Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands and Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth,

Believing that the Treaty signed at Paris on May 27 1952, establishing the European Defence Community is an essential factor in strengthening the defence of the free world through the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation ;

Considering the community of interests between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the other countries of Western Europe, the part played by the United Kingdom in the defence of Western Europe, notably through the presence of armed forces of the United Kingdom on the mainland of Europe, and the reciprocal obligations undertaken in the Treaty between the United Kingdom and the Member States of the European Defence Community signed in Paris on the 27th day of May 1952 ;

Recognising that the closest links between the United Kingdom and the European Defence Community are therefore required;

Have appointed as their plenipotentiaries for the purpose of concluding an agreement to this end,

The President of the Federal Republic of Germany ;
M. Théodor BLANK.

His Majesty the King of the Belgians ;
M. Andre de STAERCCKE.

The President of the French Republic ;
M. Hervé ALPHAND.

The President of the Italian Republic;
M. Ivan Matteo LOMBARDO.

Her Royal Highness the Grand Duchess of Luxembourg;
M. Robert ALS.

Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands;
Jonkheer Alidius Warmoldus Lambertus Tjarda
Van STARKENBOGH STACHOUWER.

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth, in respect of the United Kingdom;
Sir Christopher STEEL.

Who, having exhibited their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows :

Article I

So long as the United Kingdom remains bound by its undertakings given in pursuance of the North Atlantic Treaty in respect of the establishment and maintenance of armed forces placed at the disposal of the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, close cooperation shall be maintained between the United Kingdom and the European Defence Community in the manner laid down in Articles II and III of the present Agreement.

Article II

- a) The United Kingdom and the European Defence Community shall take appropriate measures to ensure effective and continuous cooperation between their respective armed forces placed under the command of the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, and in particular to promote a common military outlook in technical fields such as training, tactical doctrine, staff methods, logistics and standardisation of equipment.
- b) These measures will be taken in accordance with policies already agreed between the authorities concerned and shall be reviewed and extended as necessary by the competent authorities of the United Kingdom and the European Defence Community.

Article III

The United Kingdom and the European Defence Community shall establish a procedure for consultation on questions of mutual concern, including the level of the armed forces of the United Kingdom and of the European Defence Community placed under the command of the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, on the mainland of Europe, and any substantial modification in the level or composition of those forces.

To this end:

- a) the Government of the United Kingdom shall appoint a representative of Ministerial rank (who may, when appropriate, be represented by a Deputy) to attend meetings of the Council of Ministers of the European Defence Community whenever general problems of cooperation between the United Kingdom and the European Defence Community and questions of mutual concern are under discussion by the Council;
- b) the Government of the United Kingdom shall appoint a Representative to the Board of Commissioners of the European Defence Community in order to establish close and continuous liaison with the Board; this Representative and the members of his Mission may participate in any joint machinery which may be set up to handle the practical problems of cooperation between the armed forces of the United Kingdom and of the European Defence Community.

Article IV

The present Agreement shall be ratified. The instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Government of the United Kingdom, which shall notify the Governments of the other signatories of each deposit. The Agreement shall enter into force when all the signatories have deposited their instruments of ratification and the Council of the European Defence Community has notified the Government of the United Kingdom that the Treaty establishing the European Defence Community has entered into force.

Article V

The present Agreement, of which the English and French texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the Government of the United Kingdom which shall transmit a certified copy thereof to the Government of each of the signatories.

In witness whereof the undersigned Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Agreement and have affixed thereto their seals.

Donne at, Paris on, The 13th day of April 1954.

For the President of the Federal Republic of Germany;
BLANK.

For His Majesty the King of the Belgians;

A. de STAERCCKE.

For the President of the French Republic;
H. ALPHAND.

For the President of the Italian Republic;
I.M. LOMBARDO.

For Her Royal Highness the Grand Duchess of Luxembourg
R. ALS.

For Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands;
Van STARKENBOGH STACHOUWER.

For Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth, in respect of the United Kingdom;
Sir Ch. STEEL.

Military association between the forces of the United Kingdom and the European Defence Community

Statement of Common Policy

Part I Common Aims

1. In order to bring about the effective and continuous cooperation between their respective armed forces placed under the command of the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, provided for in Article II (a) of the agreement regarding cooperation between the United Kingdom and the European Defence Community, the authorities concerned of the parties to that agreement have agreed that it is necessary to reconcile, on a basis of reciprocity, differing techniques in as many fields as possible, so leading to a common military outlook. They recognise that this reconciliation will be attained by progressive measures of adjustment and in the light of experience, and that the first step will be the exchange of the necessary information in the various fields. The ultimate aim is to enable the armed forces of the United Kingdom and the European Defence Community to operate together in the circumstances described in Article 68 (paragraph 3), 69 (paragraph 3) and 70 (paragraph 3) of the Treaty Establishing the European Defence Community, without reducing their effectiveness.

2. The following are among the particular fields, applicable to the three Services, in which a common military outlook shall be sought :

a) Tactical Doctrine and Staff Methods

In order to ensure the best cooperation between units of the two armed forces, tactical doctrines and staff methods shall be reconciled as far as possible. To this ends a continuous exchange of documentary information shall take place between the military authorities of the United Kingdom and of the European Defence Community. After the establishment of the European Defence Community a joint study group shall be set up to examine the means of evolving common doctrines. Observers at tactical demonstrations and exercises shall be exchanged.

b) Logistics

The common aim is to remove such differences in logistics between the armed forces of the United Kingdom and of the European Defence Community placed under the command of the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, as might prejudice active operations in the field. This calls for the harmonisation of their logistic systems and the standardisation of their equipment.

Harmonisation of Logistics Systems

(i) As a first step the elimination of differences in logistic organisation shall be sought in certain of the less controversial fields through the agency of joint study groups.

Standardisation of Equipment

(ii) Cooperation in this field shall be closely related to the work of the Military Agency for Standardisation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. As an immediate step, a common system of equipment referencing shall be sought. The military authorities of the United Kingdom and of the European Defence Community shall exchange all the necessary documentary information on equipment and shall arrange the appropriate demonstrations.

c) Training

The training methods employed by both armed forces shall be, as far as possible, on similar lines. This will be achieved from the early stages of the formation of the European Defence Forces by the exchange of personnel and of documentary information, and by the allocation of vacancies in United Kingdom military schools and training establishments to personnel of the European Defence Community, and reciprocally. At a later stage, exchanges of units may also be arranged.

These measures will in many cases represent an extension of similar facilities and arrangements at present in force between the United Kingdom and North Atlantic Treaty Organisation countries and will be subject to similar financial arrangements.

The manner in which these measures can be applied in the three Services is set out in more detail in part II.

It is recognized that the extent to which the common aims can be achieved will be conditioned by the following factors:

- a) The obligation to conform with the doctrines and policy of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation;
- b) The stage of evolution of the European Defence Forces;
- c) The special characteristics of each Service : it is probable that the closest association can be achieved in the case of air forces;
- d) Such security regulations as may be laid down by the parties;
- e) The resources which may be available, bearing in mind the other commitments of the United Kingdom and of the European Defence Community. These resources are likely to vary between each Service.

Part II Measures to be taken by each service for practical collaboration between the forces of the United Kingdom and the European Defence Community

Air Force

1. In the early stages of the formation of the European Air Force, the Royal Air Force will assist, if desired:

- a) In the establishment of the Headquarters of the European Air Force, including the secondment of officers;
- b) By the secondment of officers, at all levels, to the European Air Force for command and staff service, including technical and administrative, and for flying duties;
- c) In the formation of the European Air Defence Command and Training Command;
- d) By providing some initial and refresher flying and technical training, and in the organisation of and supervision in technical schools.

2. When the European Air Force is more fully established collaboration may take the following form:

- a) Secondment of Royal Air Force staff officers for duty with the Headquarters of the European Air Force and vice versa;
- b) Secondment of Royal Air Force officers to the European Air Force for command and staff service, including technical and administrative, and for flying duties, and similarly of European Air Force officers to the Royal Air Force;
- c) Participation in integrated headquarters staffs in the circumstances described in Article 69 (paragraph 3) of the Treaty establishing the European Defence Community;
- d) Royal Air Force assistance in the organisation of European air defence including the setting up of close links between control and reporting systems of the European Defence Forces and those of the Royal Air Force ;
- e) Joint study of the possibility of the correlation of the aircraft production and air training programmes of the European Defence Community and the United Kingdom.

3. The closest association will be established between the European Air Force and Royal Air Force formations placed under the command of the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe. The detailed measures of association which may be arranged will be determined by joint consultation with SACEUR. Such arrangements may include:

- a) The inclusion of individual Royal Air Force squadrons and complete Royal Air Force wings within European Air Force formations, and vice versa, where military considerations make this desirable and logistic considerations make it practicable;

b) Training by the Royal Air Force of such squadrons as may be nominated by the European Defence Community.

Army

4. In the early stages of the formation of the European Army, the British Army will, if desired, assist them in their planning in the following ways:

a) By the secondment of officers to the Headquarters of the European Army and to its training and logistics staffs ;

b) By the extension to the European Army of the present arrangements whereby vacancies are made available at United Kingdom schools to forces of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. (The United Kingdom schools concerned are the Staff College, Arms Schools, the Schools of Land/Air Warfare, the Joint School of Chemical Warfare and administrative training establishments);

c) By the provision of suitable tactical demonstrations at the request of the European Army.

5. Once the European Army is established arrangements may be made for the exchange of personnel similar to those already existing for the exchange of personnel between the United Kingdom forces and forces of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. Until, however, common doctrines are developed by the United Kingdom and European Defence Forces, the level and number of such exchanges will necessarily be limited and on the following lines :

a) Between European Army staffs and those of the Headquarters of the British Army stationed on the Continent, including an exchange of liaison officers where appropriate;

b) Between officers of combatant and administrative units, for limited periods;

c) Between students at such schools and training establishments as may be agreed,

6. The closest association will be established between the land formations of the European Defence Community and those of the United Kingdom placed under the command of the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe. Detailed measures of association which may be arranged will be determined by joint consultation with SACEUR. If requested by SACEUR, such arrangements may include:

a) The inclusion of British Army formations within European Army formations, and vice versa, where military considerations make this desirable, and logistic considerations make it practicable;

b) Large scale joint United Kingdom and European Defence Community manoeuvres within the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. In this case the directing and umpiring staffs may be integrated temporarily;

c) The participation of United Kingdom divisions in training and exercises with the European Army under the overall command of SACEUR, and vice versa. In similar conditions, small units of the British Army may take part in formation training with the European Army and vice versa.

Navy

7. Close association already exists between navies of the countries of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and the Royal Navy, and will be extended to the European Defence Community. Assistance during the build up period may be of particular value.

8. The Royal Navy will cooperate in the following ways:

- a) By the provision of limited training facilities;
- b) By the participation of Royal Navy units in training and at naval or amphibious exercises which include European Naval Forces;
- c) By close co operation with the European Defence Community in the organisation, working and function of the European Admiralty, including the appointment of a liaison officer;
- d) By advising on the development of the European Navy.

Proces verbal

The Heads of Delegations representing the Governments or the States signatories to the Treaty of May 27th 1952 establishing the European Defence Community and the United Kingdom observer representing the Government of United Kingdom undersigned,

Having signed the agreement regarding cooperation between the United Kingdom and the European Defence Community have noted the statement of common policy annexed thereto and have on behalf of their respective Governments approved its terms.

Done at Paris on the 13th day of April 1954.

For the Federal Republic of Germany, T. BLANK.

For Belgium, A. de STAERCCKE.

For France, H.ALPHAND.

For Italy, I.M. LOMBARDO.

For Luxembourg, R. ALS.

For the Netherlands, T.Van STARKENBOGH STACHOUWER.

For the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ch. STEEL.