

## Statement by James E. Webb on the French project for a coal and steel pool in Western Europe (11 May 1950)

**Caption:** On 11 May 1950, James E. Webb, Acting US Secretary of State, welcomes the proposal of French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman to create a coal and steel pool, initially through the pooling of the French and German coal and steel industries.

**Source:** The National Archives of the United Kingdom, [s.l.], Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU.

http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/, Records created and inherited by the Foreign Office, FO. Schuman plan for the whole of the French and German coal and steel production to be placed under a common High Authority: discussions and negotiations 1950, FO 371/85843.

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Publication date: 07/09/2012

07/09/2012



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At his news conference today, Acting Secretary Webb made the following statement:

## Schuman Proposal

M. Schuman's proposal for the pooling of the French and German steel and coal industries is a major contribution toward the resolution of the pressing political and economic problems of Europe. Since the details of the proposal have not been elaborated, we cannot yet see or analyze all its many implications. The creative and constructive possibilities inherent in the proposal, however, are so great as to encourage the belief that the many difficulties involved can be resolved by the continuing effort and imagination of all who are concerned.

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