

Western European Union. Communiqué (4 July 1955)

Caption: This communiqué on Western European Union refers to a meeting of the Council of the European Union held on 4 July 1955 in Strasbourg and examines the issue of European security borders.

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WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION

4th July 1955

COMMUNIQUE.

The Council of Western European Union met on 4th July at 11 a.m. at Strasbourg under the Chairmanship of M. P.H. SPAAK, Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The other countries were represented by: M. A. FINAY (French Foreign Minister), M. L. BENVENUTI (Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rome), M. J. BECH (Président du Conseil, Luxembourg), M. M. BEYEN (Netherlands Minister of Foreign Affairs), M. W. HALLSTEIN (Secretary of State of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs) and Mr H. MACMILLAN (United Kingdom Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.)

The Secretary-General, M. LOUIS GOFFIN, submitted to the Council a report on the measures taken to implement the decisions adopted by the Ministers at their meetings on 7th and 11th May 1955 in Paris. These measures include the establishment of the Armaments Control Agency, the Standing Armaments Committee and the European Commission for the Saar Referendum.

The Council took note of the nomination, by the different countries of their representatives on the Standing Armaments Committee. These are: M. A. de STAEBCKE (Belgium) General BRON (France), Admiral P. CAEPONI (Italy), M. N. HOMMEL (Luxembourg), M. G.J.H. de GRAAFF (Netherlands), Herr W. SCHMID (Federal Republic of Germany) and Mr C.E.F. GOUGH (United Kingdom).

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The Council received the members of the European Commission for the Saar Referendum: M. P. DEHOUSSE (Belgium), M. P. De PAOLIS (Italy), M. A. KUNNEN (Luxembourg), Sjaen A. BENTINCK (Netherlands) and Sir GEORGE REEDEL (United Kingdom), who have been meeting in the Saar during the last three days. The Chairman of the Commission, M. DEHOUSSE, reported on the progress made in the study of the draft laws drawn up by the Saar Government concerning the organisation of the Saar Referendum and the application of democratic liberties.

So far as social and cultural cooperation within W.S.G. is concerned, the new organisation will continue the work already done on the Five Power level by the Brussels Treaty Countries, in association with the German and Italian Governments.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on 15th July in Paris in order to take note of the further report of the European Commission for the Saar Referendum, and to take the decisions resulting from this report.