Letter from Sir E. John W. Barnes to Lord Hood on NATOWEU relations (London, 13 March 1968)

Caption: On 13 March 1968, Sir E. John W. Barnes, head of the Western Organisations and Coordination Department in the British Foreign Office, sends a working paper prepared by the British delegation for the study on relations between the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and Western European Union (WEU) to Lord Hood, Deputy Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign Office and Permanent Representative to WEU. The text focuses on the outstanding issues caused by France's withdrawal from the NATO integrated command and highlights the particular situation of France with regard to the WEU armaments control system, given that the procedures differ depending on whether forces and armaments are under national command or under NATO command.

Source: The National Archives of the UK (TNA). Foreign Office, Western Organisations and Co-ordination Department and Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Western Organisations Department: Registered Files (W and WD Series). WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION (WEU). Relations with NATO. 01/01/1967-31/12/1968, FCO 41/267 (Former Reference Dep: WU 4/3/1 PART B).

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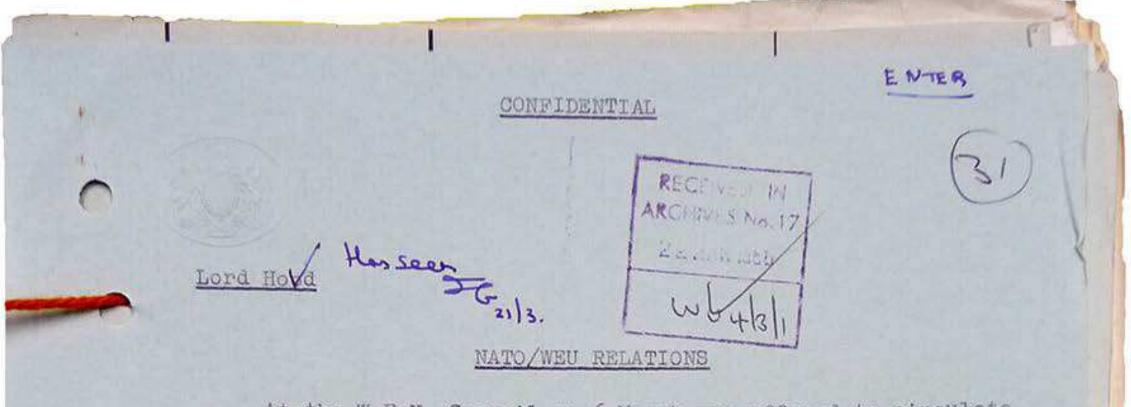
http://www.cvce.eu/obj/letter_from_sir_e_john_w_barnes_to_lord_hood_on_nato_ weu_relations_london_13_march_1968-en-f415f2od-8d8e-4c58-9dd9e66533014657.html



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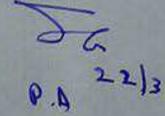
At the W.E.U. Council on 6 March you offered to circulate a working paper on the main points outstanding on the Study on NATO/WEU Relations.

2. I attach a draft which has been agreed with the Department's Legal Adviser.

3. If you agree, we will circulate it to the W.E.U. Working Group in time for a meeting on 15 March.

(E.J.W. Barnes) 13 March, 1968

Low thood thought that something sharter max very used and preferes a duft, which I submitted to the blacking broup. It was availables aformelly (See [30). On the basis of this duft the blacking broup prefered a shart refared to the Course on Outstanding I server on the NAT. | WEU velocitions Stady (See [29]. This will be considered at the next meeting of the Courses on 3 black. :r



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Council's resolution of 22 October, 1954 to implement the Final Act of the London

/Conference,

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	SECURITY CLASSIFICATION	To:	From			
	Top Secret. Secret. Confidential. Restricted. Unclassified.		Telephone No. & Ext. Department			
	PRIVACY MARKING					
		NATO/WEU Relations				
NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN		Outstanding Issues				
		Working Paper by the U.K.Delegation				
		the In/view of the United Kingdom Delegation				
	main points)	the Council still have to reach an agreed view				
	FOUL	Hacing town				
	Ling A	on the following matters arising from the Study on NATO/WEU relations. (a) The obligations assumed by member countries under the revised Brussels Treaty of 1954				
	a marine and					
		and the North Atlantic Treaty of 1949 are				
	Gob	interdependent. Any step taken by a member				
	M F / and	of W.E.U., which Affects the North				
	l'in	Atlantic Treaty Organisation, will also				
	tost.	affect the Brussels Treaty system.				
		The Council th	1 therefore need to			
o _z	Links Rul hall	identify the effects of the French				
	ROS - AND - AND	decision to withdra	aw their forces from			
	at the second second second	the NATE internated	he NATO integrated command arrangements			

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the NATO integrated command arrangements oblights. on the mutual negotiations under the Revised Brussels Treaty.

(b) The French withdrawal from the MATO integrated command arrangements has placed France in an exceptional position vis-à-vis the W.E.U. contol system. The WEU control system was drawn up on the basis that member countries would act in accordance with paragraph 4 of the North Atlantic Council's replution of 22 October, 1954 to implement the Final Act of the London /Conference, Conference, in which it is stated that "all forces of member nations stationed in the area of the Allied Command, Europe, shall be placed under the authority of the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe...". Now that all French forces are under national command, these forces are subject to less exacting control procedures than those of the other members of WEU who continue to act in conformity with the Resolution of 22 October, 1954, For example:

(i) In accordance with Article IV of Protocol No.II SACEUR carries out inspections to ensure that as stated in C(68)2, FLAG B the limits set out in Articles I and II of Propoteol No.II have been observed. There are no such inspections to ensure that the limits for French forces for the common defence under national command have in fact been observed as stated in C(68)13. FLAG C
(ii) As pointed out by the Netherlands FLAG D

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

provided by member countries relating to forces under NATO command is more detailed than that about forces under national command. Other member Governments are thus in no position to arrive at a meaningful assessment of the military strength of French forces.

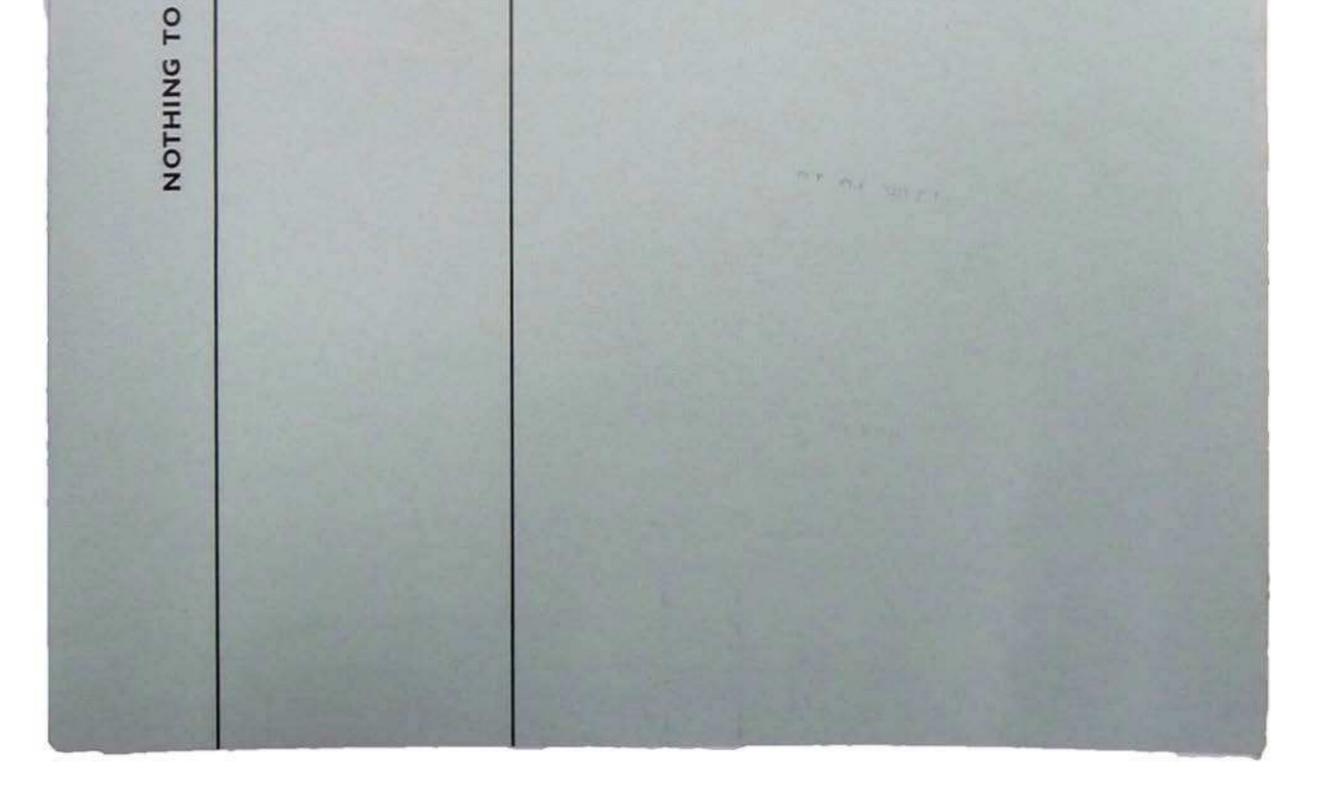
February, 1967, the information

(iii) According to the resolution of 15 September, 1956, increases in the levels of forces of member states under NATO Command above the limits set out in Articles I and II of /Protocol

FLAG B

Protocol No. II are subject to the requirement of a unanimous decision by the Council of WEU. Having withdrawn her forces from the integrated command arrangements, France is under no corresponding restriction as regards the level of her forces.

The Council therefore need to consider whether any action should be taken to correct these imbalances.



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