

Recommendation 348 of the WEU Assembly on the application of the Brussels Treaty following the invasion of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union (Paris, 3 June 1980)

Caption: On 3 June 1980, the Assembly of Western European Union (WEU) adopts Recommendation 348 on the application of the Brussels Treaty following the invasion of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union, in which it calls for close cooperation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

Source: Assembly of Western European Union. 'Recommendation No. 348 on the application of the Brussels Treaty following the invasion of Afghanistan by the Soviet Union (Paris, third sitting, 3rd June 1980)' in Proceedings: Twenty-sixth ordinary session: First Part, Vol. II, Minutes: Official Report of Debates. Paris: Assembly of WEU. June 1980, p. 31.

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RECOMMENDATION 348***on the application of the Brussels Treaty
following the invasion of Afghanistan
by the Soviet Union***

The Assembly,

- (i) Considering that at a time when the forces of the Soviet Union have just invaded a non-member country of the Warsaw Pact it is essential to reaffirm the mutual defence obligations of Articles IV, V and VIII.3 of the modified Brussels Treaty;
- (ii) Recalling the recommendations in the report on strategic mobility prepared by the Committee on Defence Questions and Armaments*;
- (iii) Considering that no provision of the modified Brussels Treaty should jeopardise the security of the Alliance and noting that the Council applies only partially the controls provided for in Protocol No. III;
- (iv) Anxious to clarify the state of commitments entered into in the framework of the treaty,

RECOMMENDS THAT THE COUNCIL

1. Consider that consultations in the North Atlantic Council may supplement, where appropriate, those provided for in Article VIII.3 of the modified Brussels Treaty, thus reaffirming the proper responsibilities of each of the seven member countries and the respective provisions of the Brussels and North Atlantic Treaties;
2. Call for the strengthening of the defence of all member states through the urgent implementation by the states concerned of measures of the long-term defence programme to take account in particular of the situation in the Middle East;
3. Approve, in the appropriate NATO bodies, the assignment of German naval forces to SACLANT and to SACEUR with the sole aim of making the best use of all available allied forces for the common defence;
4. Delete paragraph V of Annex III to Protocol No. III of the modified Brussels Treaty;
5. Make use of the procedure whereby NATO may provide material for replies to appropriate Assembly recommendations;
6. Amplify, in future annual reports, the present reference to United Kingdom land forces stationed on the mainland of Europe by a corresponding reference to the United Kingdom's Second Tactical Air Force and any redeployment of such forces liable to affect the accuracy of the figures given;
7. Clarify, in its twenty-sixth annual report, the present situation as regards stocks of chemical weapons held by member countries and publish in it the list approved by the Council, currently in force, of chemical products to be controlled by the Agency.

* Document 758.