Recommendation 252 of the WEU Assembly on consultation and decisions in the Atlantic Alliance (Paris, 19 June 1974)

Caption: On 19 June 1974, the Assembly of Western European Union (WEU) adopts Recommendation 252 on consultation and decisions in the Atlantic Alliance. The Assembly recommends that the WEU Council improve consultation in the North Atlantic Council and that it invite the Nine to hold consultations with the United States, without making any concessions that would be contrary to the vital interest of Europe, particularly in the area of force reductions.

Source: Assembly of Western European Union. 'Recommendation 252 on the consultation and decisions in the Atlantic Alliance (Paris, third sitting, 19th June 1974)' in Proceedings: Twentieth ordinary session: First Part, Vol. II, Minutes: Official Report of Debates. Paris: Assembly of WEU. June 1974, p. 36.

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http://www.cvce.eu/obj/recommendation_252_of_the_weu_assembly_on_consultation_and_decisions_in_the_atlantic_alliance_paris_19_june_1974-en-5114ac34-cb56-4cd8-927a-4cedd74ab4cb.html

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RECOMMENDATION 252

on consultation and decisions in the Atlantic Alliance

The Assembly,

Concerned at the inadequacy of consultation and joint decision in the Atlantic Alliance on various occasions during the past eighteen months ;

Aware that at different times there has been unreadiness to consult both on the part of the Nine and the United States ;

Believing that machinery alone cannot ensure consultation if the will to consult is lacking,

RECOMMENDS TO THE COUNCIL

1. To improve consultation in the North Atlantic Council through the attendance of political directors at least twice a year, and by maintaining in that Council "the fullest possible exchange of views and information, and close consultation and co-operation, in a spirit of mutual trust, on all problems of common concern" * irrespective of the geographical areas in which the problems may arise ;

2. To urge the North Atlantic Council to pay more attention to Article 2 of the North Atlantic Treaty ;

3. To invite the Nine to hold consultations with the United States on matters of common concern when the formulation of decisions is sufficiently advanced to allow the Nine to defend a common point of view but before the Nine have finalised their decision ;

4. To ensure that bilateral channels of information and consultation with the United States remain open ;

5. To ensure through the foregoing processes of consultation that no concessions are made that are contrary to the vital interest of Europe in the three East-West conferences CSCE, MBFR and SALT, whatever pressures for agreement there may be.

* North Atlantic Council communiqué of 11th December 1973.

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