

Draft reply by the WEU Council to Assembly Recommendation 334 on various aspects of cooperation between Europe and the United States (London, 30 October 1979)

Caption: On 30 October 1979, the Secretary-General of Western European Union (WEU) circulates the WEU Council's draft reply to Recommendation 334 of the Assembly on various aspects of cooperation between Europe and the United States. The document presents the original Italian proposal and a series of amendments from other delegations, including the French and British delegations, most of which are subsequently taken up in the final version (C (79) 148). The delegations emphasise that regular consultations take place between the Member States of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and consequently between the WEU member countries, which all belong to NATO apart from France. On the matter of the deployment of new nuclear weapons by the Soviet Union, the delegations note that NATO is following this question closely. They also emphasise that the bilateral agreements signed between various WEU members and the United States do not conflict with the achievement of European cooperation in armaments production.

Source: Council of the Western European Union. Secretary-General's note. Recommendation 334 on various aspects of co-operation between Europe and the United States. London: 30.10.1979. WPM (79) 29/1. 6 p. Archives nationales de Luxembourg (ANLux). <http://www.anlux.lu>. Western European Union Archives. Secretariat-General/Council's Archives. 1954-1987. Organs of the Western European Union. Year: 1979, 01/05/1979-18/06/1979. File 202.424.23. Volume 1/1.

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URL:

http://www.cvce.eu/obj/draft_reply_by_the_weu_council_to_assembly_recommendation_334_on_various_aspects_of_cooperation_between_europe_and_the_united_states_london_30_october_1979-en-7566b955-4a42-4ff8-b32e-b38786aaeod9.html



Last updated: 13/10/2016

WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION

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Original: English/French

WPM (79) 29/1

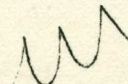
30th October, 1979

SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NOTE

Recommendation 334
on various aspects of co-operation
between Europe and the United States
(C (79) 87)

The Secretary-General circulates a draft reply to Recommendation 334 on various aspects of co-operation between Europe and the United States.

This text, prepared at the working group of 29th October, 1979, on the basis of WPM (79) 29, will be considered at the next meeting of the group on Monday, 5th November at 10.30 a.m.


9, Grosvenor Place,
London, S.W.1.

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Draft reply to Recommendation 334

1. The Council wish to remind the Assembly that, in accordance with the purpose for which it was formed, the North Atlantic Alliance seeks to safeguard the security and freedom desired by the peoples of all its member countries. [This is further confirmed by the terms of the communiqué issued after the last ministerial session of the Defence Planning Committee of NATO which states that "Ministers recalled that during the 30 years since its foundation the North Atlantic Alliance has, despite serious challenges, continued to meet its basic objectives".

The same communiqué adds that "Ministers expressed their satisfaction at the past record of close and full consultations within the Alliance on issues arising from the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks between the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R.". Regular consultations therefore take place between all the members of NATO and consequently between the member countries of W.E.U. also,]⁽¹⁾ OR [It is the intention of all member States of W.E.U. to contribute in such manner as each may consider appropriate to so safeguarding the security and freedom of their peoples.

/The Council observe

(1) Original Italian version.

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The Council observe that in a communiqué which commits only the member States represented,^(*) the Defence Planning Committee of NATO declared after its ministerial session of 15th and 16th May, 1979, that "Ministers recalled that during the 30 years since its foundation the North Atlantic Alliance has, despite serious challenges, continued to meet its basic objectives". In the same communiqué, Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the past record of close and full consultations within the Alliance [on issues arising from the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks between the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R.]. Regular consultations therefore take place between all the members of the integrated command structure of NATO and hence between the member countries of W.E.U. included in that structure^(*)]⁽¹⁾ and the views expressed by each member are taken into full account by the Alliance, where decisions are of course taken by agreement only. [Consultations on SALT between the United States and its allies which are members of the integrated command structure of NATO have been considerably intensified, inter alia, by the establishment of new consultative mechanisms within the Alliance.]⁽²⁾

/2. As can be seen ...

(*) France is not represented.

(1) Version proposed by the French delegation.

(2) The German delegation proposes the addition of this sentence.

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2. As can be seen from the same communiqué which states that "Ministers expressed concern about recent developments in the nuclear field, particularly certain new developments in the Soviet theatre nuclear capabilities", this question is kept under close scrutiny by NATO, [so that the necessary action can be taken to restore the balance in this field.](1)
OR [so that consideration can be given to the measures needed in order to maintain a credible deterrent in this field.](2)
OR [so that any necessary collective action can be taken.](3)
[Thus it is assured that the implications of the Soviet Union's deployment of new weapons for the security of western Europe which is inseparably linked to the security of the United States and Canada, are under close examination.](4)

3. A critical appraisal of the kind suggested is carried out at intervals by the competent agencies of the Alliance : in which most of the member countries of W.E.U. are represented.

/4. As regards ...

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- (1) Original Italian version.
(2) Version proposed by the Belgian delegation.
(3) Version proposed by the United Kingdom delegation.
(4) The German delegation proposes the addition of this sentence.

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4. As regards the organisation of European co-operation in armaments production, [[the Assembly has already been informed of the study at present being carried out by the S.A.C. on the situation of the armaments sector in the member countries of W.E.U. The Independent European Programme Group is [also active in this field.]]⁽¹⁾ OR [actively concerned with the identification of projects suitable for co-operation between European countries.]⁽²⁾

Finally, in the Council's view the bilateral protocols of agreement signed by most members of W.E.U. with the United States do not conflict with the achievement of a multilateral European understanding because the aim of such agreements]]⁽¹⁾ OR [[the Council's view is that the bilateral memoranda of understanding (MOU) signed by most members of W.E.U. with the United States do not conflict with the organisation of European co-operation in armaments production because the aim of such MOUs]]⁽³⁾ is to promote [more effective]⁽⁴⁾ co-operation in the research, development, production and purchase of conventional defence equipment and [at the same time to restore the balance of armaments purchases in the two directions]⁽¹⁾ OR [to improve the two-way flow of armaments purchases]⁽⁵⁾ to ensure easier access for European manufacturers to the American market.

/5. ...

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- (1) Original Italian version.
(2) Version proposed by the French delegation.
(3) Version proposed by the United Kingdom delegation.
(4) The Belgian delegation proposes deletion of these words.
(5) Version proposed by the Belgian delegation.

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5. The need for consultation on energy problems between the European countries and the United States is fully appreciated by the governments of the member countries of W.E.U. and is recognised by the agreement reached in Tokyo last June on oil imports over the next five years and by the continuous series of contacts on the subject in the International Energy Agency.

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