

Reply by the WEU Council to Assembly Recommendation 334 on various aspects of cooperation between Europe and the United States (London, 22 November 1979)

Caption: On 22 November 1979, the Secretary-General of Western European Union (WEU) circulates the WEU Council's reply to Recommendation 334 of the Assembly on various aspects of cooperation between Europe and the United States. The Council notes that regular consultations take place between the Member States of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and consequently between the WEU member countries, and welcomes the exchanges that have taken place in the Alliance in connection with the SALT negotiations. The WEU Council also emphasises that the bilateral agreements signed between various WEU Member States and the United States do not conflict with the organisation of European cooperation in armaments production.

Source: Council of the Western European Union. Secretary-General's note. Assembly Recommendation 334. London: 22.11.1979. C (79) 148. 3 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/reply_by_the_weu_council_to_assembly_recommendation_334_on_various_aspects_of_cooperation_between_europe_and_the_united_states_london_22_november_1979-en-a41e65cc-19af-4ad4-9e5b-6do6d3aa050.html



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WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION

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SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NOTE

Assembly Recommendation 334

(C (79) 87)

The Secretary-General circulates herewith the Council's reply to Assembly Recommendation 334.

This reply, approved by all delegations, has been forwarded to the Assembly (CR (79) 10, II, 1).

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

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Reply to Recommendation 334
on various aspects of co-operation
between Europe and the United States

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. It is the intention of each member State of W.E.U. to contribute, in accordance with the undertakings it has given, to so safeguarding security and freedom.

The Council observe that, in the communiqué issued after its ministerial session of 30th and 31st May, 1979, the North Atlantic Council declared that "Ministers expressed their confidence that as the Alliance enters into its fourth decade it will continue to ensure the security of its members by pursuing the complementary aims of deterrence and détente thus contributing to peace and stability". In the same communiqué, Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the past record of close and full exchanges on SALT II within the Alliance. Regular exchanges have therefore taken place between all member countries of the Alliance and hence between all member countries of W.E.U., and the views expressed by each member have been taken into full account. Consultations on SALT between the United States and its allies which participate in the integrated defence of NATO have been considerably stepped up and are likely to be further intensified inter alia through new consultative mechanisms.

2. The communiqué referred to earlier states that Ministers "expressed particular concern about the growing Soviet theatre nuclear capabilities". The countries participating in the integrated defence of NATO are keeping under close scrutiny the implications of the Soviet Union's deployment of new weapons for the security of western Europe which is inseparable from that of the United States and Canada, and are consulting on measures required to maintain deterrence and defence.

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 the ...

4. As regards the organisation of European co-operation in armaments production, 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 is to promote co-operation in the research, development, production and purchase of conventional defence equipment in order to improve the two-way flow of armaments purchases and to ensure easier access for European manufacturers to the American market.

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.