

## ‘Pledge of loyalty by France’ from The Guardian (28 June 1966)

**Caption:** On 28 June 1966, in the light of France’s decision to withdraw from the military structure of the Atlantic Alliance, the British newspaper The Guardian reports on a statement by Jean de Broglie, French representative to the Council of Western European Union (WEU) and Junior Foreign Minister, reaffirming France’s intention to remain loyal to the commitments in Articles 4 and 5 of the WEU Treaty.

**Source:** "Pledge of loyalty by France" from The Guardian. London: Guardian Newspapers. 28.06.1966,p.9.

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# **PLEDGE OF LOYALTY BY FRANCE**

**Brussels, June 27**

France today reaffirmed her loyalty to the key parts of the 1954 treaty setting up the Western European Union, a well-informed source said here.

The pledge to the Union—which groups the six European Common Market nations with Britain—was given at this afternoon's meeting of the WEU Ministerial Council.

The source said that the French delegate to the council, M. Jean de Broglie, State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, said France intended to remain completely loyal to both articles four and five of the WEU Treaty.

Diplomatic observers said the statement was a formal reaffirmation of the French stand that her withdrawal from NATO's integrated military commands does not mean she is leaving the Atlantic Alliance or giving up her obligations under the 1954 WEU Pact.

## **Cooperation**

Both the 1949 North Atlantic Treaty and the WEU Treaty call upon signatory States to come to each other's aid in case any of them is attacked. The relevant article for this promise is number five in both treaties.

Under Article Four of the WEU Treaty the union's council relies on appropriate military authorities of NATO for information and advice on military matters in order not to duplicate the military staff of the wider 15-nation alliance. The article also stipulates that the union's organs will work in close cooperation with NATO.

The council also agreed that efforts to improve relations with Eastern European nations should be made mainly on a bilateral basis.—Reuter.

