

## Draft reply by the British delegation to the WEU Council to written question 206, by Sir Frederic Bennett, on the security and integrity of Pakistan and Iran (8 February 1980)

**Caption:** On 8 February 1980, the Secretary-General of Western European Union (WEU) circulates the draft reply by the British delegation to the Council to the question put by Sir Frederic Bennett, British member of the WEU Assembly, who, in view of the threat posed by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, would like to know what guarantees the WEU member countries are prepared to grant for the security and integrity of Pakistan and Iran. The draft reply mentions that the WEU member countries are currently considering how to respond; they have called for the immediate withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan and are analysing the request for assistance from Pakistan and plans for bilateral assistance announced by Western governments. Although Iran has not requested any help, the WEU member countries will keep a close eye on future Soviet intentions in this area.

**Source:** Council of the Western European Union. Secretary-General's note. Written Question 206 put to the Council by a member of the Assembly. London: 08.02.1980. WPM (80) 11. 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, 01/11/1979-30/04/1980. File 202.413.999.11. Volume 1/1 .

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**URL:**

[http://www.cvce.eu/obj/draft\\_reply\\_by\\_the\\_british\\_delegation\\_to\\_the\\_weu\\_council\\_to\\_written\\_question\\_206\\_by\\_sir\\_frederic\\_bennett\\_on\\_the\\_security\\_and\\_integrity\\_of\\_pakistan\\_and\\_iran\\_8\\_february\\_1980-en-do3ad161-d2fc-4e75-8f9c-73568da3cf68.html](http://www.cvce.eu/obj/draft_reply_by_the_british_delegation_to_the_weu_council_to_written_question_206_by_sir_frederic_bennett_on_the_security_and_integrity_of_pakistan_and_iran_8_february_1980-en-do3ad161-d2fc-4e75-8f9c-73568da3cf68.html)



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# WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION

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Original: English

WPM (80) 11

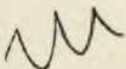
8th February, 1980

## SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NOTE

### Written question 206 put to the Council by a member of the Assembly

The Secretary-General circulates herewith a draft reply, prepared by the United Kingdom delegation, to written question 206 put to the Council by Sir Frederic Bennett, a member of the Assembly, and circulated on 21st January, 1980 (C (80) 5).

This draft will be considered by the working group at a forthcoming meeting.



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London, S.W.1.

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Text of written question 206 put to the Council

by Sir Frederic Bennett

(C (80) 5)

What guarantees are the W.E.U. member countries prepared to grant for the security and integrity of Pakistan and Iran against external aggression?

Draft reply

The Governments of the member countries of W.E.U. are considering in consultation with other governments how to respond to the severe threat posed by the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan for the stability of an area of vital geopolitical importance. They have called for the immediate withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. They are considering how best to respond to requests for assistance from individual countries of the region including Pakistan. Various Western governments have announced plans for bilateral assistance which will contribute to Pakistan's security. The Governments of the member countries of W.E.U. are committed to pursuing their efforts to work for peace and security in the region. The Government of Iran has not requested any help to preserve her security and integrity in the light of the Soviet invasion. But the Governments of

/the member countries ...

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the member countries of W.E.U. have noted with interest the condemnation by a number of Iranian Government figures, including the Foreign Minister and the newly-elected President, of the Soviet action. All the Governments of the member countries of W.E.U. will be watching with great concern future Soviet intentions in this area.

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