

## Extract from minutes of the 194th meeting of the Council of Western European Union (6 December 1961)

**Caption:** On 6 December 1961, the Western European Union (WEU) Council meets to discuss Recommendation No 68 (C(61)182) on the Standing Armaments Committee and the joint production of armaments. The Council approves the slightly amended version of paragraph 4 of the British draft reply proposed by French representative Jean Chauvel, as well as various formal amendments to the English text.

**Source:** Council of the Western European Union. Extract from minutes of the 194th meeting of WEU Council held on 6 december 1961. IV. Questions concerning the Assembly. CR (61)25. pp. [s.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: 1960, 01/03/1960-30/05/1962. File 202.411.05. Volume 1/1 .

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EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF 194<sup>#</sup> MEETING  
 OF W.E.U. COUNCIL HELD ON 6 Dec. 1961  
 CR/61/25

IV. QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE ASSEMBLY

1. Recommendation No. 68  
 (CR (61) 24, III, 4; C (61) 182)

The CHAIRMAN<sup>(M. G. P.)</sup> recalled that several delegations had already approved the draft reply in document C (61) 182 to Recommendation No. 68 concerning the Standing Armaments Committee and the joint production of armaments.

M. CHAUVEL proposed an amended version of paragraph 4 of the draft reply, giving the same information but in rather more concise form, as follows:

"4. The Council approve paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of the Recommendation and, with some reservations, paragraphs 1 and 2.

Joint production, though it can often furnish the best solution to problems of armaments development, is not a universal panacea.

It is important, when projects are selected and production is distributed between the member countries of the Atlantic and W.E.U. Alliances, to ensure that duplication is avoided and that the best weapons and equipment are selected for general use.

Bilateral and multilateral production should neither delay the introduction into service of modern weapons nor result in increased costs. It may even be in the interests of economy and efficiency in certain cases for individual countries to specialise in the development and production of those types of weapon or equipment which they are best qualified to provide.

Finally, recourse should only be had to joint production where it will enable new weapons to be supplied to the Western Alliances by the quickest and cheapest means."

The CHAIRMAN suggested certain formal amendments to paragraphs 1 and 5. (English text only).

The COUNCIL:

APPROVED the draft reply to Recommendation No. 68 in document C (61) 182, as amended, and authorised its transmission to the President of the Assembly.