

Draft reply by the French delegation to Recommendation 93 on the revised Brussels Treaty (London, 12 August 1963)

Caption: On 12 August 1963, the Secretary-General of Western European Union (WEU) circulates a draft reply from the French delegation to the Council to paragraph 1 b) of Recommendation 93 by the WEU Assembly. The Council emphasises the importance it places on the entry into force of the Convention of 14 December 1957 making provision for due process of law so that the Agency for the Control of Armaments (ACA) can effectively fulfil the duties assigned to it. The French delegation confirms that the control of stocks of atomic weapons raises various legal and technical problems but that the ACA has always been in a position to report that no unauthorised production has taken place. The Council does not consider it opportune to make the changes to the modified Brussels Treaty that would be entailed by the WEU Assembly's recommendation.

Source: Council of the Western European Union. Secretary-General note. Assembly Recommendation 93 . London : 12.08.1963. WPM(335). Copy N°46. 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: 1963, 01/01/1963-30/10/1963. File 202.412.05. vol 1/1 .

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http://www.cvce.eu/obj/draft_reply_by_the_french_delegation_to_recommendation_93_on_the_revised_brussels_treaty_london_12_august_1963-en-f8843809-583f-492b-881d-d9d6b6f93242.html



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SECRETARY-GENERAL'S NOTE

Assembly Recommendation 93

The Secretary-General circulates herewith a draft reply to Recommendation 93 concerning the application of the Brussels Treaty.

The reply to paragraph 1 b) has been drafted by the French delegation and those to paragraphs 1 a) and 2 by the Secretariat-General (see CR (63) 13, III, 1).

This item will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Council, to be held on 11th September 1963.

MT 32

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London, S.W.1.

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Draft reply to Recommendation 93

1. a) The Council have reminded those Governments of member States that have not yet ratified the Convention of 14th December 1957 making provision for due process of law, called for by Article XI of Protocol No. IV, of the importance they attach to the entry into force of this legal instrument which would enable the Agency effectively to fulfil the duties assigned to it by the modified Brussels Treaty.

b) As regards measures to be taken in preparation for the control of stocks of atomic weapons, the Council have recently had occasion to point out to the Assembly that the fixing of levels of stocks raises complex legal and technical problems; the Assembly Committee on Defence Questions and Armaments were able to appreciate this consideration during the detailed exchange of views which took place at the last joint meeting with the Council on 27th September 1962.

So far as the non-production of this category of weapons is concerned, the Agency has always been in a position to report that no unauthorised production has been noted - which finding, moreover, is regularly conveyed by the Council to the Assembly in their Annual Report.

2. The Recommendation requests that armaments control be extended to the territories of all member countries and that the maintenance of minimum force levels on the Continent at the disposal of SACEUR be made compulsory for all member States.

/The measures ...

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The measures proposed in the Recommendation would necessarily entail substantial amendments to the modified Brussels Treaty.

It is in fact stated in Article IX of Protocol No. IV that the operations of the Agency shall be confined to the mainland of Europe, whereas the only minimum levels prescribed by the Paris Agreements for the strength of forces to be maintained on the Continent are those laid down in Article VI of Protocol No. II, which concerns the forces of the United Kingdom.

The Council do not consider it opportune, in present circumstances, to amend the modified Brussels Treaty on the lines proposed.

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