



Office of Research, USIA,

② (MULTIREGIONAL SECURITY SURVEY

The West European Questionnaire: Questions and Responses)

Between mid- and late March USICA conducted a Multiregional Security Survey of public opinion in the wake of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. The attached document contains the questions posed to the general public in three European countries--Great Britain, France and Germany--as well as preliminary findings. The Office of Research is preparing a series of analytical reports based on the survey results which will be issued in the near future. Data and reports for other countries will also be distributed when available.

(Washington:

April 1980) ②

MULTIREGIONAL SECURITY SURVEY

Questions and Responses from Western Europe

1. What in your opinion are the two or three most important problems facing our country at the present time? (PROBE, IF ONLY ONE: What other problems are particularly important?) (No list provided respondent)

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
<u>Domestic</u>			
Inflation, cost of living	55%		23%
Unemployment	35		24
Strikes, labor problems	30	Not	3
Other domestic economic problems	37	Avail- able	17
Other domestic concerns	14		27
<u>International</u>			
Common Market	13		1
Energy shortages and costs	3		54
Increasing USSR/East and US/West tensions	2		22
Soviet actions in Afghanistan	1		15
Boycott of Moscow Olympics	-		11
Growth of Soviet military power	1		3
Other international concerns	7		10
No opinion	$\frac{2}{200\%}$ *		$\frac{-}{210\%}$ *

*Adds to more than 100% because multiple responses permitted.

2. Here is a list of things some people think are problems facing the world today (HAND CARD). Please read over this list and tell me which two of these you personally think are the most serious problems for the world at the present time?

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
Arab-Israeli conflict	6%	10%	8%
Economic gap between rich and poor countries	26	34	12
Soviet military action in Afghanistan	34	28	43
High cost of oil	35	35	60
Vietnamese military actions in Cambodia	4	3	4
Cuban military activities in other countries	1	2	3
Growth of Soviet military power	33	14	26
US interference in other countries' affairs	11	9	7
Influence of multinational corporations	3	10	9
Increasing tension between the US and the USSR	34	31	30
No opinion	$\frac{4}{191\%*}$	$\frac{8}{184\%*}$	$\frac{6}{208\%*}$

*Adds to more than 100% because multiple responses permitted.

3. What country do you think is the most powerful in the world at the present time? (No list provided respondent)

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
United States	30%	45%	39%
USSR	52	28	45
China	3	6	4
Other	5	3	2
No opinion	9	18	11
	<u>99%*</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>101%</u>

4. And what about five years from now: what country do you think will be the most powerful in the world? (No list provided respondent)

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
United States	22%	23%	31%
USSR	47	19	38
China	8	15	15
Other	4	4	2
No opinion	19	39	15
	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>101%</u>

*This, and other small divergences from 100% occur because of rounding procedures.

Which one of the courses listed on this card seems to you the best way to provide for the security of our country?

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
The NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) alliance among the countries of Western Europe and the United States	44%	10%	50%
An independent West European defense force under European command, but allied to the United States	17	26	27
An independent West European defense force under European command, but not allied to the United States	9	18	5
Rely on our own nation's defense forces without belonging to any military alliance.	13	17	3
Reduce our defense forces and rely on greater accommodation with the Soviet Union.	4	6	2
No opinion	<u>13</u> 100%	<u>23</u> 100%	<u>14</u> 101%

6. Regardless of your own feelings about (COUNTRY'S) membership in NATO, do you think NATO should just provide security against a possible Soviet attack in Western Europe, or do you feel that NATO should also help protect our vital interests in other parts of the world?

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
Just provide security in Western Europe	22%	19%	36%
Also protect vital interests elsewhere	63	47	48
No opinion	<u>15</u> 100%	<u>34</u> 100%	<u>16</u> 100%

7. Do you think that the level of (COUNTRY'S) expenditures for military purposes should be increased, decreased, or left at about their present level?

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
Increased	48% 33	15% 15	21% 15
Left at about present level	33	50	52
Decreased	10	22	12
No opinion	9	13	16
	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>101%</u>

(IF "INCREASED" ON Q.7)

- 7a. Do you think (COUNTRY) should spend more for military purposes even though taxes might go up or social services might decline as a result? Or do you think we should not increase military spending under those conditions?

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
Spend more even though taxes might go up	34% 17	8% 4	13%
Should not increase under those conditions	11	6	6
No opinion	3	1	2
Not asked	52	85	79
	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>

8. In the event our country's security were threatened by a Soviet attack, how much confidence do you feel we can have in the US to come to our defense -- a great deal, a fair amount, not very much, or none at all?

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
Great deal	34%	19%	16%
Fair amount	37	46	50
Not very much	17	18	21
None at all	7	5	4
No opinion	5	12	9
	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>

9. Which do you think is more powerful at the present time: the West, that is the NATO countries or the East, that is the Warsaw Pact countries?

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
West/NATO countries	27%	31%	36%
East/Warsaw Pact countries	48	31	44
Both equal (VOLUNTEERED)	10	-	-
No opinion	14	38	20
	<u>99%</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>

10. Which do you think will be more powerful five years from now?

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
West/NATO countries	24%	22%	33%
East/Warsaw Pact countries	43	22	38
Both equal (VOLUNTEERED)	6	-	-
No opinion	27	56	29
	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>

11. As you probably know, the USSR sent troops into Afghanistan last December. Have you heard or read a great deal, a fair amount, not very much, or hardly anything about this?

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
Great deal	30%	31%	22%
Fair amount	43	34	51
Not very much	18	20	21
Hardly anything	8	9	3
No opinion	2	6	4
	<u>101%</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>101%</u>

12. Some people say the Soviet troops went into Afghanistan to help the legitimate government handle rebellious groups supported from outside. Others say they entered to take over control of the Afghan government. Which view is closer to your own?

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
To help government handle rebellious groups	10%	14%	10%
To take over control of Afghan government	73	59	75
No opinion	<u>16</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>15</u>
	99%	100%	100%

13. Which things on this list, if any (HAND CARD), do you think (COUNTRY) should do about the Soviet troops in Afghanistan? (PROBE: Anything else?)

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
Express support for the Soviet Action	1%	2%	2%
Take no special action	17	42	25
Boycott the Olympics in Moscow	17	10	32
Stop agricultural shipments to the USSR	23	6	20
Stop all trade with the USSR	36	5	17
Strengthen our military defenses	20	10	28
Supply military equipment to countries bordering Afghanistan that may be threatened, such as Pakistan	15	7	17
Supply military equipment to Afghans resisting the Soviet presence	7	9	9
Join with other countries in using military force to prevent possible further Soviet advances in the area	22	16	16
No opinion	<u>6</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>11</u>
	164%*	125%*	177%*

* Adds to more than 100% because multiple responses permitted.

14. In view of the Soviet actions in Afghanistan, which one of the statements on this card best summarizes your view of the approach (COUNTRY) should take in its present relations with the Soviet Union.

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
Take strong actions to show opposition to what the Soviet Union has done and stop negotiating with the Soviets on other issues.	25%	6%	13%
Take strong actions to show opposition to what the Soviet Union has done, but continue to negotiate with the Soviets on other issues.	29	27	37
Do not take strong actions but protest what the Soviets have done. At the same time, continue negotiations with the Soviets on other issues.	17	25	25
Do nothing that is likely to worsen relations with the Soviet Union and continue negotiating with it on other issues.	18	24	11
No opinion	<u>11</u> 100%	<u>18</u> 100%	<u>15</u> 101%

15. In dealing with Soviet actions in Afghanistan, do you think our country should work with the US very closely, fairly closely, not too closely, or not at all?

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
Very closely	33%	8%	22%
Fairly closely	40	32	42
Not too closely	15	26	23
Not at all	7	14	4
No opinion	<u>6</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>9</u>
	101%	100%	100%

16. How likely do you think it is that recent developments in Afghanistan will lead to war directly involving our country -- very likely, fairly likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

	<u>Great Britain</u>	<u>France</u>	<u>West Germany</u>
Very likely	6%	4%	2%
Fairly likely	22	21	13
Not likely	40	40	54
Not at all likely	21	22	18
No opinion	12	13	13
	<u>101%</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>

	<u>Number of Persons Interviewed</u>	<u>Fieldwork Dates</u>
Great Britain	987	March 19-24
France	Approx. 1,000	Mid-March
West Germany	1,001	March 18-28