

ECONOMIC COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION  
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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON THE MARSHALL PLAN

Question: What is the opinion of the ECA regarding the nationalization of the steel industry in Great Britain?

Answer: The ECA has no disposition to intervene in the internal affairs of the Marshall Plan nations. As long as they remain free nations with a free ballot, the kind of economic organization under which they operate is their business. The only criterion is whether the use to which ECA dollars are put produces maximum results in terms of recovery.

Question: What are counterpart funds?

Answer: Countries receiving grants under the Marshall Plan must deposit in special accounts amounts in their own currencies equal to the full sum of aid received from the United States. These counterpart funds then may be used by the individual nations only for projects which contribute to economic recovery and only after their expenditure has been approved by the Economic Cooperation Administration.

Question: Was the Marshall Plan conceived as a weapon in a "cold war" with Russia?

Answer: .After the European Recovery Program was proposed by Secretary Marshall in June 1947, all European nations were invited to meet for the consideration of a united effort for European recovery. After a few days the Russians withdrew and later forced their satellite nations to withdraw. With these moves the real purposes of the Kremlin become clear. Russia wants not recovery for Europe but confusion and chaos as a basis for the for the advancement of totalitarian dictatorship. There is a "cold war" going on in Europe, but it bears the label "made in Moscow."

Question: What is the OEEC?

Answer: The OEEC is the "Organization for European Economic Cooperation." It is an international group, composed of representatives of the various Marshall Plan countries with headquarters in Paris. It is responsible for taking the initiative in formulating the plans for European recovery and for supervising their execution. The United States is not a member of this organization, but through its special representative in Paris, the ECA observes, assists and advises in the work of the OEEC where appropriate. Each program submitted by the OEEC is finally reviewed by the ECA in Washington to determine that it represents a plan of action which promises to achieve the objectives of the European Recovery Program, that it is consistent with the intent of Congress and that the assistance requested from the United States is feasible in the light of available supplies. Upon final approval of the plans, funds for carrying out the various recovery projects are furnished by the ECA.

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