

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Working Documents

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DOCUMENT 1-680/81

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

tabled by Mr J. VANDEMEULEBROUCKE

pursuant to Rule 47 of the Rules of Procedure

on the protection of valuable Bronze Age sites
in the Netherlands

The European Parliament,

- referring to the need to ensure the fullest possible protection of archeological sites as an outstanding record of our civilization,
 - drawing attention to the Boshoverheide in the Netherlands, a large area of moorland situated between Budel and Weert in the Netherlands and the Belgian-Limburg border, where extremely important Bronze Age sites containing burial urns and burial mounds are to be found,
 - noting that the Dutch government has designated the Boshoverheide as a military exercise area and intends to permit further exercises to take place there,
 - noting that the military exercises carried out on the Boshoverheide, particularly those by the German forces stationed in Budel, are the cause of many infringements of Dutch law on the preservation of monuments, and that in many cases recognized areas of archeological importance are being irreparably damaged or destroyed,
1. Considers that there is an urgent need for the appropriate Community services to investigate this serious situation as soon as possible;
 2. Calls on the Commission and the Council to press the Dutch and German governments to take steps to ensure that the unique urn fields and burial mounds of the Boshoverheide are more securely protected;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council and the Commission of the European Communities.