

DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES
DELEGATION DE LA COMMISSION DES COMMUNAUTÉS EUROPÉENNES
BUREAU DE PRESSE ET D'INFORMATION

COMMUNIQUÉ

"LA COMMUNAUTÉ EUROPÉENNE AFFIRME SON AUTORITÉ"

Le président Jenkins, de la Commission,
énumère les progrès réalisés par la C.E.

Ci-après, des extraits des notes pour le discours de
Roy Jenkins, président de la Commission des Communautés euro-
péennes, prononcé à Chicago le 20 avril devant le Council on
Foreign Relations.

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Growth of the Community

At present there are two catalysts for growth. First is the prospect of direct elections to the European Parliament in the course of next year. Direct elections will necessarily affect the character of the Parliament by changing the view it has of itself and the way in which it is regarded by the citizens of Europe. It will offer them a new dimension of European involvement. You must not expect drastic developments. National parliaments are in no hurry to give up their powers. But a whole new balance of democratic power and accountability within the Community will eventually have to be established.

The second main catalyst is the prospect of the Community's further enlargement. New bargains will have to be struck and new strains will be imposed. This is not to say that I do not welcome the prospect of enlargement. My colleagues and I will do everything possible to further the success of the negotiations with Greece and Portugal. Spain may also want to join. The Community has a clear political duty to sustain nascent democracies in Europe. But I recognize, as we all must, that enlargement will inevitably create political as well as economic problems for present and future member states and the institutions of the Community itself. We do not want to dilute its character and turn it into a free trade area without cohesive political force. Indeed the logic is the other way. Without some further willingness on the part of the national modern states to improve the decision-making capacity of the Community as a whole,

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the institutions could become hard to manage in their present form. I have confidence that the Community and its members will take on the necessary new dimension and adapt to the new circumstances. I add that the result will be of great interest and importance to the United States.

E.E.C. / U.S. Relations

It is not possible to see the evolution of the European Community in isolation from the European relationship with the United States. The gradual assertion of the weight and authority of the Community in the world and the achievement of a more balanced European relationship with the United States is something for which many Americans and Europeans have long worked, and is I think profoundly in the interests of both partners and the alliance in which we are joined together.

Happily you and we share a commitment to expanding and liberalizing trade wherever possible. This commitment is of particular importance now when all industrial countries face in differing degrees the problems of recession, inflation, and unemployment. No such country is exempt from domestic pressure to provide more protection against foreign competition. But so far most governments have stood commendably firm. One consolation for them is that the electorate of consumers has recently been speaking almost as loudly as the electorate of producers, and although most people are both, sometimes the one interest has stilled the other. At least the domestic effects of undue protection are now becoming better understood by all concerned. We have to take great care, both in Europe and in the United States, to avoid playing both sides of the fence by talking free trade but practising protection. We shall soon be standing up to be counted when multilateral trade negotiations begin later this year. It is, I suppose, natural that there should be complaints and differences between such giant trading partners as ourselves. Each should be examined on its merits and dealt with in a spirit of understanding. Above all we should constantly bear in mind the immensity of our common interest. If Americans, Europeans and Japanese cannot sort out the limited problems which arise between them, how much less can they cope with the much larger problems which face them in their dealings with countries whose economies are substantially different from their own.

Downing Street Summit

The meeting in London will be particularly significant in that the European Community will be directly represented for matters within its competence for the first time. I know that this is welcomed by the United States Administration. Indeed I am happy to record the increasingly close relationship between the administration and the Community, as symbolized by Vice-President Mondale's visit to the Commission in Brussels within four days of President Carter's inauguration and my own

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official visit to the United States so early in the life of the Administration.

There is a lot on our agenda. But I should like to enlarge upon two points.

The first is energy. On April 7th President Carter set out in unequivocal terms a major appraisal of the civil nuclear energy policy of the United States. He made clear his particular concern about the risks of nuclear proliferation and the special dangers which arise from plutonium technology. I welcome and applaud his courage in tackling an issue which affects the lives of future generations as well as our own. The Commission has special responsibilities in this field and the Commission will play its part in examining the problems posed by the nuclear fuel cycle. I also welcome President Carter's recognition that other countries possessed of nuclear technology are not in the same situation as the United States. The degree of European dependence on imported energy and raw materials has led us to place more emphasis on the development of nuclear resources, and in some respects, as you know, we lead the world. We do not like being heavily dependent on others for our supplies, whether of oil or uranium, any more than you do. Thus for obvious reasons we cannot go in the same direction and at the same pace as the United States, but we want to cooperate as closely as we can with you. This should also be true of energy saving and of looking for what are -- perhaps wrongly -- called exotic sources of energy -- from solar energy to wave and wind power to geothermal sources. We have our sunshine, our ocean tides and winds, and our volcanoes, too.

My second main point is the approach we have adopted in Europe towards relations with the non-industrial countries of the world. This, the so-called North/South Dialogue, will also be discussed at the London meeting.

The Commission has recently developed one of the elements in the Lomé Convention, that for stabilizing certain export earnings of non-industrial countries, into a proposal for discussion in the broader dialogue between the industrial and the non-industrial countries in general. This scheme, which carries the label STABEX, is designed to guarantee a reasonable level of income to the producers, thus protecting them from the fluctuations of the market, and their customers from uncertainty of supply.

More important, when the nine European Heads of State or government met at Rome last month, they decided to accept the principle of a common fund as a buttress to agreements covering a range of commodities and thus to help in the establishment of that new economic order in the world for which so many non-industrial countries have reasonably asked. The Community has long recognized the need to give such countries greater purchasing power and in a real sense to transfer resources to them. Straight aid is of course another matter, and here the Community has laid emphasis on the need for concentrating on the poorest countries. The frontiers in the world are coming down with remarkable speed, and whether people like it or not they can no longer be strangers to each

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other. Ideas spread fast and more persuasively than ever before in a sort of irresistible contagion, a happy malady which those with broad minds but robust constitutions can only welcome. In a world grown cynical it has been a consolation that President Carter should so robustly have upheld human rights as enshrined in that Charter of the Rights of individuals as well as states signed by 35 European leaders, including the United States and the Soviet Union, at Helsinki in August 1975. The governments of the Community gave the lead in drafting and negotiating that Charter, and intend to hold firmly to it. It would be a betrayal of principle for expediency if we were to do otherwise.

I believe that in this fashion Europeans and Americans can recover that moral leadership and identity with human aspiration in all parts of the world which has been America's at several periods in the past. Respect for the individual and his rights is the bedrock of our political faith. We must neither compromise it for ourselves nor deny it to others. That is the basis of the policies we are pursuing in Europe and you in the United States. It makes a light for our times.

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