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236 Southern Building, Washington 5, D.C.  
telephone NATIONAL 8-5070

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## HALLSTEIN APPEALS FOR COMMON MARKET SUPPORT

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 14 -- President Walter Hallstein has told the European Parliament that the Common Market would not tolerate any changes in the Community that would tend to hinder progress toward European unification, it was reported from Strasbourg today. Professor Hallstein made his statement in reply to a Parliamentary question submitted October 12 regarding the position of the EEC Commission toward recent discussions between the leaders of the six member governments of the Community.

French President Charles de Gaulle is reported to have suggested regular meetings of heads of state in his talks with German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer at Rambouillet July 28, and at subsequent meetings throughout Europe. Some concern has been expressed that such an arrangement might tend to diminish the authority of the European Community executives--the Commissions of the Common Market and Euratom, and the High Authority of the Coal & Steel Community.

Professor Hallstein outlined the responsibilities of the Commission of the European Economic Community under the Treaty of Rome as empowering the executive to initiate proposals and prepare drafts for submission to the Council of Ministers. "To enable it to carry out its task," President Hallstein said, "the Commission has been vested with an important quality -- it is independent of the member states. Instructions may neither be given by nor received from governments. By this safeguard, the Commission is enabled to be objective...as the guardian of the interests of the Community, the Commission must never countenance any arrangement which is not compatible with the treaty."

In summing up, the President insisted that the spirit as well as the letter of the Treaty of Rome which established the Common Market must be maintained, and he said, "Support of these principles will provide the best contribution to the unchanged aim of political union, and encouragement should

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be given to any initiative which will take us beyond present achievements and into the sphere of unification."

Reviewing the achievements of the Common Market in less than three years of operation, Professor Hallstein pointed out that economic policies "are coming constantly closer together." He referred to the fact that trade has shown a remarkable increase. Statistics for the first half of 1960 show an increase of trade within the Community of almost 34 percent over the same period of 1959.

The Common Market has already reduced the internal tariff of member states by 20 percent and will put into effect an additional 10 percent cut before the end of this year. The first steps toward a common external tariff for the six countries as a whole will be taken January 1, 1961.

"The Community as a reality and as a necessity is catching hold more and more firmly in the consciousness of our nations," the Common Market President said. "Internally and externally as well, it stands secure and respected. I think there is agreement that any looser association would not have brought about the results we see today."

The question as posed requested that "the Commission of the European Economic Community state whether to its knowledge the exchanges of views on European policy which have been taking place between the governments of the six have affected or are likely to affect the functioning of the various European institutions as provided for in the Treaty of Rome."

President Hallstein pointed out at the beginning of his reply that the member states have not yet officially defined their positions and that for this reason his answer could not deal with detailed plans but could concern itself only with considerations of general principle.

He rejected any idea that the six countries should base their common policies on the principle of unanimity. "To incorporate our Community into an organization tied to unanimous approval rather than to single majority vote," the President said, "would be tantamount to a decisive change and a weakening of our organization. Furthermore, it would bring back the veto power which the treaty has abolished."

He defined the broad responsibilities of the Commission as three: (1) to initiate proposals, (2) to act as "the guardian" of the treaty, (3) to serve as an honest broker in arriving at compromises between governments. In connection

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with the last point, President Hallstein said that the Commission is now making plans to assure "more intensive cooperation between the Commission and the permanent representatives of the member states."

In giving his wholehearted support to the Treaty of Rome, President Hallstein said, "We believe that the existing order of things should not be changed." He added that the institutional arrangement has proven itself in practice and that "everything should be done to facilitate progress through the existing institutions so that they may make their full contribution to economic well-being and to the steady advance toward a Community which is also political."

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