



20 Kensington Palace Gardens London W8 4Q Q Telephone: 01-727 8090

January 28, 1977

WEEKLY TIMETABLE OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES - No 4/77

Next Council Meetings

Brussels February 8 Foreign Affairs

February 14 Finance
February 14 + 15 Agriculture
February 28/March 1 Agriculture

Other Events

London January 31/Feb. 1 Political Cooperation (President Jenkins, Vice-President Haferkamp with the Foreign Ministers)

Provisional Dates Further Ahead

Foreign Affairs Council: March 8, April 5, May 3,

June 20

Finance Council: March 14, April 25,

May 16, June 20

Agriculture Council: March 14+15, April 25+26,

May 16+17, June 20+21

Transport Council: March 22 + 23

Development Council: March 22
Energy Council: March 29

Special Meeting of Commission on Agriculture: Brussels, February 11

European Council (summit): February 21 + 22 (Brussels

June 28 + 29 (London)

European Parliament : February 7 - 11

March 7 - 11 April 18 - 22 May 9 - 13 June 13 - 17

FLASHBACK

PIGMEAT SUBSIDY: On Wednesday the Commission informed the British Government that its proposed aid to pig farmers of $5\frac{1}{2}$ pence per kilo of pig meat was contrary to Community rules as liable to distort the market. The British Government has eight days to present its observations to the Commission after which it will then take a definitive decision, failure to comply with which would render the British Government liable to action in the Court of Justice.

Vice-President Mondale Visits the Commission: On Monday, Walter Mondale, the new Vice-President of the USA, visited the Commission and spent an hour with President Jenkins as well as meeting other members of the Commission. President Jenkins stressed the importance to Europe of American economic policy and Vice-President Ortoli the need to restore economic and monetary stability. They also discussed international trade negotiations, the North-South dialogue, Community participation in the economic Summit, and energy. Vice-President Mondale conveyed to President Jenkins an invitation from President Carter to visit Washington. No date is yet fixed.

Action Programme: On January 20 the Commission met to prepare its action programme to present to the European Parliament in February. Among the subjects raised were economic disequilibrium and the problem of unemployment as well as the improvement of the financial instruments of the Community and consumer protection.

National Farmers' Union: The National Farmers' Union held its annual meeting in London. Sir Henry Plumb declared that UK prices would have to rise to realistic levels.

Bullock Report: Fierce controversy has followed the majority report of the Bullock Committee in favour of introducing worker directors on company boards. A system is envisaged of an equal number of directors elected by the workers as those elected by the shareholders. The former will require Trade Union nomination. Further directors will be elected by the two sets of directors acting together.

In 1975 the Commission published a Green Paper, intended to provoke Community wide debate on this topic.

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