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NEWS

BRITTAN TO MAKE FIRST EC COMMISSION VISIT WITH NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION

Sir Leon Brittan, Vice President of the European Commission responsible for External Trade Relations, will be in Washington February 11 and 12 for meetings with members of the new United States Administration. The meetings are expected to focus on the Uruguay Round trade negotiations as well as on bilateral trade problems in steel and telecommunications.

On February 11, Sir Leon will have separate two-hour meetings with US Secretary of Commerce Ronald H. Brown and US Trade Representative Michael Kantor. On Capitol Hill, he will meet with Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) who is Co-Chairman of the Senate Steel Caucus and a Member of the Senate Finance Committee.

On February 12 at 9 a.m., Sir Leon will brief the press in a Morning Newsmaker at the National Press Club, National Press Building, 13th Floor, 14th and F Streets NW. All members of the press are invited to attend.

Also on February 12, he will speak on the topic "The World Economy in 1993" at a luncheon in the Willard Hotel (Ballroom), 1401 Pennsylvania Avenue NW. Sir Leon is guest-of-honor at the luncheon, which is being organized iointly by British, Danish, French, German and European-American Chambers of Commerce. Reservations can be made with the French-American Chamber of Commerce at (202) 775-0256.

Sir Leon Brittan

Sir Leon Brittan became EC Commissioner for External Trade Relations in January 1993. In his first term as Commissioner, from 1989 to 1992, he was Vice President responsible for Competition and Financial Services.

Sir Leon, who was a Conservative member of the British Parliament from 1974-1988, held several Cabinet posts in the British government after the Conservative victory in the 1979 General Election. He served as Secretary of State for Industry and Trade (1985-1986), Home Secretary (1983-1985), Chief Secretary to the Treasury (1981-1983), and Minister of State at the Home Office (1979-1981).

Sir Leon is also author of numerous publications, including "A New Deal for Health Care" and "Defense and Arms Control in a Changing Era (both 1988).

Born in London on September 25, 1939, Sir Leon was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and was a Henry Fellow at Yale University. In 1962, he was called to the Bar and in 1978 received the prestigious appointment as Oueen's Counsel. In 1983, he became a member of the governing board of the Inner Temple, one of London's four unincorporated legal societies.

The US has always interested Sir Leon. From 1970 to 1978, he was a member of the European North American Committee. He studied at Yale and represented his home university, Cambridge, in a debating tour of the US in 1960.

Sir Leon is married and has two stepdaughters. He was knighted in January 1989.

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