

# EUROPEAN COMMUNITY NEWS

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**COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES**

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## FRAMEWORK FOR LONG RUN OBJECTIVES IN INTERNATIONAL TALKS

EC Commission President Sicco L. Mansholt, at a news conference in New York November 16, called on the major industrial countries to set up "a framework" for the upcoming international trade and monetary negotiations. The US Special Representative for Trade Negotiations, William D. Eberle, at the same news conference, suggested that President Richard M. Nixon's projected European visit next year would help establish such a framework for the upcoming talks. Mr. Mansholt said he hoped the President would meet not only with national European leaders but with Community leaders as well. Mr. Mansholt, in New York for an off-the-record symposium sponsored by the Committee for Economic Development (CED), reaffirmed his personal concern, and the Community's "grave responsibility," for developing nations.

## TWO MORE OF THE NEW "THIRTEEN"

The current Italian members of the Commission of the European Communities have been renominated to serve on the new Commission of the enlarged Communities next year. They are Commission Vice President Carlo Scarascia-Mugnozza, with special responsibility for the common agricultural policy, and Altiero Spinelli, Commissioner in charge of industrial, technological, and scientific affairs. Already nominated by their respective national governments to the new 13-member Commission, subject to approval by the Council of Ministers, are Francois Xavier Ortoli and Jean Francois Deniau, of France; Sir Christopher Soames and George Thomson, of Britain, and Patrick Hillery, of Ireland.

Mr. Scarascia-Mugnozza's career in public service has included posts as Secretary of State in both the Italian Ministry of Public Education and the Ministry of Justice, as head of the Italian Delegation to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and as a member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies and the European Parliament. He became Vice President of the EC Commission on March 21, 1972. Mr. Spinelli, who was sentenced to prison in 1927 for his anti-Fascist activities, founded the European Federalist Movement in Milan when released in 1943. His considerable activity in the academic world has included a visiting professorship at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in Bologna. Mr. Spinelli served in 1968-69 as counselor for European affairs in the Italian Foreign Affairs Ministry and was appointed July 1, 1970, to the EC Commission.

THE FICKLE NORSE

Only a month after rejecting EC membership in a national referendum September 24-25, a majority of Norwegians now would vote affirmatively. In answer to a Norsk Gallup Institutt question -- "If there were to be a new referendum about Norwegian entry into the Common Market, would you vote yes or no?" -- 50 per cent of the respondents polled in October replied "yes." When those respondents with no opinion are excluded, that percentage jumps to 55, with 45 per cent opposed -- almost an exact reversal of the vote in the referendum.

The most common explanation for this turnabout in Norwegian public opinion centers on the almost two-to-one Danish vote in favor of Community membership on October 2. Had the Danish plebiscite been held first, results in Norway might have been very different. In short, Norwegians seem to be having second thoughts. Said Don Cook of *The Los Angeles Times*: "Those who voted 'no' so blithely and enthusiastically in September are now waking up to the fact which the Labor Government tried desperately to drive home -- that it would not be easy to wave a wand and get generous preferential treatment in Brussels, and that Norway would be better off both economically and politically by standing firmly inside the European Community."

Meanwhile, the Gallup Markedanalyse in Copenhagen published a cross-section survey on the voters in the Danish referendum. The rural population was 69 per cent in favor of Community membership, while those voting in the capital city were only 52 per cent in favor. A higher percentage of men than women voted "yes" -- 61 and 57, respectively. By age group, the highest percentage in favor of entry was 65-and-over. Ninety-three per cent of independent farmers voted "yes," while students and apprentices were only 34 per cent in favor of Community membership. The highest income group was also the most pro-entry.

TIT-FOR-TAT TALKS

The Community, the United States, Canada, and Australia, among others, are scheduled to begin talks next year on "compensation" for the Community's enlargement. The talks, within the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), will attempt to decide what compensation third countries should receive for any British, Irish, and Danish tariffs raised when these three countries join the Community January 1.

NIGERIA SAYS NO

Nigerian Editor Latif K. Jakande said in a syndicated article this month that his country's government has decided not to seek association with the European Community. Mr. Jakande is the current chairman of the International Press Institute, the Zurich-based parent body of the journalistic profession.

UNCTAD + EC

With just a little more than a month left in his tenure as President of the EC Commission, Sicco L. Mansholt continues to stress Community relations with the "Third World." In his latest reaffirmation of Community responsibility to developing nations, the Commission President met November 9 in Brussels with high officials from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), including UNCTAD Secretary General Manuel Perez-Guerrero. Mr. Mansholt said the Commission would do its utmost to ensure that Community development aid and cooperation policies would follow the principles adopted at UNCTAD III in Santiago last spring.

THE "PRIORITY OF PRIORITIES"

Next spring may mark the watershed in the Community's social policy. In April, the Council of Ministers responsible for social and labor affairs plans a meeting to finalize the goals and direction of the Community's social policy. In May, the Commission will organize a seminar on the problems of migrant workers within the Community. Said the Commissioner in charge of social and labor affairs, Albert Coppe, at a November 20 Brussels news conference: "In our view, the priority of priorities is to ensure that the enlarged Community is seen as a new European society, aware of the problems facing it but also conscious of its values and its solidarity. Europe must now have something to say to its people, to every worker, every student, every citizen, even to those so far neglected by the mainstream of development -- migrant workers, the handicapped, and the elderly -- so that everyone may feel that Europe is being created for him and through him: This is the challenge facing us in this decade." Mr. Coppe's remarks and the plans for a stepped-up social policy come after the European Summit's emphasis on giving Europe "a human face."

MASS LAYOFFS ARE MARKET CONCERN

The European Parliament and the Economic and Social Committee are studying a Commission proposal to harmonize member states' laws on mass layoffs of workers. Disparities in job security laws, in the Commission's opinion, interfere with social progress, regional development policies, and fair competition between companies in different Community countries. The Commission submitted the proposal to the Council of Ministers on November 8.

## P R E S S   V I E W S

Brussels -- The nine members of the European Economic Community will soon attempt to thrash out a joint economic, commercial -- and eventually political -- approach to the whole Mediterranean region....The prospect of the European Community stretching its tentacles from Spain to the Persian Gulf and southward deep into Africa, is not a comfortable one for Washington, especially at a time when the United States is markedly increasing its imports of oil....The development of a Mediterranean policy will pose a serious test for the Common Market's eventual aim of a joint foreign policy. If Europe should begin more directly to promote "peace and stability" in the area, observers here believe US objections to the EEC trade initiatives would gradually be muted. -- Richard Norton-Taylor, *The Washington Post*, November 11, 1972.

London -- One interesting and difficult adjustment in US foreign policy over the next four years will be that which must inevitably take place with Britain, now that the United Kingdom has joined the European Community and, by so doing, severed the apron strings that bound it to the United States since World War II. Washington steadfastly encouraged the British to take this historic step, almost since the idea of an organized "Europe" was first bruited. Now, however, with the move actually accomplished, giving the Common Market great new impetus and depriving the United States as well as the United Kingdom of a long-lived "special relationship," the consequences are bound to produce important changes. -- C.L. Sulzberger, *The New York Times*, November 12, 1972.

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