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PRESS RELEASE

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EMBARGOED: 12 noon Brussels 25 March, 1977

United States EST: 6 am
CST: 5 am
MST: 4 am
PST: 3 am

No. 7/1977

March 24, 1977

PRESIDENT CARTER CONGRATULATES THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY ON ITS TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

On the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the Treaties of Rome which set up the European Community, the following exchange of letters has taken place between President Carter, and the President of the European Commission, Mr. Roy Jenkins.

March 16, 1977

Dear Mr. President:

On the twentieth anniversary of the Treaties of Rome which established the European Community, I am happy to extend warm congratulations to you and your colleagues on the Commission. The principles of the Rome Treaties reflect our shared aspirations for strong and democratic societies, seeking ways to advance human progress. The United States will continue to support the Community's efforts to realize these aspirations. I am convinced that a close and cooperative US/EC relationship is vital to us all, and I wish the Commission and the Community well as you move into a third decade of successful common enterprise.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Carter

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the Commission of the European Communities, I thank you most warmly for your letter of 16th March on the 20th anniversary of the Treaties of Rome.

From the earliest days the understanding and sympathy which the United States has shown for the European idea and its realization in the European Communities has been a source of strength and encouragement. The relationship between the United States and the Communities is fundamental to the progress and well-being of our common democratic society, and will, I believe, become increasingly important to us both. We are particularly happy to receive your message as the Communities move into their third decade.

Yours Sincerely,

Roy Jenkins