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U.S. PRESIDENT TO VISIT COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

U.S. President Jimmy Carter will visit the Commission of the European Communities on Friday, January 6, the final day of his nine-day, seven-nation foreign tour.

After meeting King Baudoin of Belgium and Prime Minister Leo Tindemans earlier in the day, the American president is to spend about two hours at Commission headquarters in Brussels. As an indication of the importance he attaches to close relations with the European Community, Carter dispatched the new U.S. vice president, Walter Mondale, to meet with Commission officials shortly after the administration took office last year. But this is the American president's first visit to the Berlaymont, headquarters of the executive and administrative branch of the nine-nation Community.

The Right Honorable Roy Jenkins, Commission president, and Vice President Wilhelm Haferkamp, commissioner in charge of external relations, will greet President Carter upon his arrival at Commission headquarters, expected to be shortly after 2 p.m. Brussels time. After a brief preliminary meeting, Carter and other members of the American delegation will be welcomed by the full 13-member Commission. Substantive discussions are expected to include trade and economic topics.

President Carter is scheduled to conclude his visit to the Commission about 4 p.m. and a press conference by President Jenkins is anticipated. Brief discussions between members of the Commission and members of the American delegation are expected to continue while President Carter makes the final call of his trip on North Atlantic Treaty Organization officials at the NATO headquarters, also located in Brussels.

The U.S. president and his party are to return later on Friday to Washington, D.C.