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PRESS RELEASE

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BRIEFING SET ON EC RESEARCH ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Jean-Pierre Contzen, program director of the Joint Research Center of the nine-nation European Community, will hold a press briefing on EC contributions to energy and environmental research on Friday, February 17, at 11:30 a.m. in the conference room of the Delegation of the European Communities, 2100 M St. NW, Washington, D.C.

Contzen, a Belgian who directed telecommunications and satellite programs at the European Space Research Organization in Paris and advanced reactor studies at the Mol Nuclear Center in Belgium before joining the European Community, will also deliver a paper on joint European research at the American Association for the Advancement of Science conference in Washington on Thursday, February 16.

European Community research funding amounts to nearly \$1.5 billion for 1977-80. More than \$400 million of this is budgeted for research and development to be carried out at the four Joint Research Center institutes at Ispra, Italy; Petten, the Netherlands; Geel, Belgium, and Karlsruhe, Germany.

The four-year JRC program includes 10 major lines of research with the primary focus on nuclear safety and future energy sources. The research areas are:

- nuclear safety
 - reactor safety
 - plutonium fuels and actinide research
 - nuclear materials and radioactive waste management

- future energies
 - solar energy
 - hydrogen
 - technology of thermonuclear fusion
 - high temperature materials
- environment and resources
- measurements, standards and reference techniques
- service and support activities

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