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BACKGROUND NOTE

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COMMON MARKET AND EGYPT RESUME NEGOTIATIONS FOR FOOD AGREEMENT

The European Community formally opened negotiations yesterday in Brussels for an "experimental" agreement to sell food to Egypt.

The Community will make the following offer valid for one year except in the case of sugar:

 1,000,000 tons of cereals, including 200,000 tons of flour, at \$120 to \$175 a ton

• 75,000 tons of white sugar, to be delivered over three years, at \$386 to \$406 a ton

• 3,000 tons of cheese at \$1,000 to \$1,150 a ton

• 11,000 tons of chilled beef (including 1,000 tons of corned beef) at \$800 to \$850 a ton

10,000 tons of powdered skim milk at \$630 to \$650 a ton.

This agreement is part of the worldwide effort to stabilize food supplies. It is not connected with Community aid under the Food Aid Convention. The Community has pledged to make 1,287,000 tons of grain available to the world food aid program next year.