

New Series, "EC Wire Service"

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EUROPEAN COMMUNITY PROPOSES STEEL DEAL
WITH THE UNITED STATES. DETAILS.

1. Following the decision of the EC Council of July 20 on steel the EC Commission today submitted the following proposals to the United States authorities.

2. What is envisaged is

(a) bilateral agreements on certain ECSC products between the Community, Belgium, France, Italy and the United Kingdom on the one hand, and the Government of the United States on the other under Section 704 of the US Trade Agreements Act of 1979 so as to allow the United States Department of Commerce to suspend the pending countervailing duty investigations for these products.

(b) Preparedness on the part of the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands and Luxembourg not to take advantage of the export limitations accepted in the bilateral agreements mentioned above.

3. The bilateral agreements envisaged would involve for the period 1 October 1982-31 December 1985 a reduction of the share of the U.S. market by 10 0/0 compared with 1981 for the following products from the following countries. This leads to the market shares set out below.

Per Cent

- Belgium

Structurals	3.51
Hot rolled sheet	0.67
Wire rod	0.54

- France

Structurals	0.85
Hot rolled sheet	2.81
Cold rolled sheet	0.89
Wire rod	2.55

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Per Cent

- Italy

Hot rolled sheet	0.42
Cold rolled sheet	0.32

- United Kingdom

Structurals	2.21
Plate	0.42
Hot rolled carbon bars	3.12

4. The agreements envisaged under (2) will only be concluded if the U.S. Department of Commerce agrees to conclude all the four agreements with Member States.

5. These agreements shall terminate in the event that the Government of the United States accepts a global agreement restructuring U.S. imports and leading to the withdrawal by the U.S. industry of the petitions relating to these products.

6. These agreements are entered into without prejudice to the pursuance by the Commission of the European Communities of the lines of action open to it within the GATT to contest the legality of the determination of the U.S. authorities concerning the products subject to the pending CVD investigations.