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> Wire Service July 29, 1983

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY CHALLENGES U. S. FOOD AID ACTION FOR EGYPT

The proposed U. S. sale to Egypt of 18,000 metric tons of butter and metric 6,000 / tons of cheese was notified to the Commission of the European Communities by the U. S. Department of State on July 18 as a food aid transaction. Since this notification the Commission had requested further information from the American government at meetings on July 26 and 27 in Brussels and on July 29 in Washington, D. C.

From the information which we have today the Commission is not convinced that this sale is a food aid. If this transaction is confirmed, the Commission will take appropriate procedures on export subsidies provided by the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The Commission has made it known to American authorities for some time their extreme concern for any actions that would upset the stability of the world market in dairy products.