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DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS AND INFORMATION

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

SIR HENRY PLUMB, MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND
CHAIRMAN OF THE EUROPEAN DEMOCRATIC GROUP

Sir Henry Plumb is conservative member for the Cotswolds (Great Britain) in the European Parliament, elected in the first direct elections in June, 1979 and re-elected in June 1984. In September 1979 he was subsequently elected as chairman of the Parliament's committee on agriculture. He gave up this position when he was elected chairman of the European Democratic Group. Sir Henry is still a member of the committee on agriculture.

Sir Henry, who was born in 1925 and farms in Coleshill, Warwickshire, is married and has a son and two daughters. He was knighted in 1973 and awarded the Order of Merit from the Federal Republic of Germany in 1978.

He retired in January, 1979 from the presidency of the National Farmers' Union of England and Wales after nine years, and during this time had a close working relationship with both the Government and Parliament. He became more acquainted with the European scene by his election to the presidency of the European Farmers' Organization (COPA) after the United Kingdom joined the European Community.

Sir Henry has long been a committed European and has always seen the Community in the wider world context.

Sir Henry is also a Deputy Lieutenant for Warwickshire and a non-executive director of the boards of Lloyds Bank Ltd., United Biscuits, and Fisons Ltd.

March 1985

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LORD PLUMB of COLESHILL

Henry

Lord PLUMB was elected President of the European Parliament in January 1987. He has been the MEP for the Cotswolds (England) since 1979 and was re-elected in June 1984. From 1979 to May 1982 he was Chairman of the Parliament's Agriculture Committee and from 1984 he was a member of the Transport Committee. He was Chairman of the European Democratic Group from 1982 to 1987.

Lord PLUMB was born in 1925 and educated at Ansley Church of England School and King Edward School, Nuneaton. He is married with two daughters and a son. He has eight grandchildren.

Lord PLUMB was the second longest serving President of the National Farmers Union of England and Wales, holding this position for nine years and retiring just prior to his election to the European Parliament.

In 1977 he was the President of the Royal Agricultural Society of England and was deputy to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales in 1978. For some years he has acted as Chief Steward to the International Pavillion of the Royal Show.

Lord PLUMB has long been a committed European, and was actively involved in the European League for Economic Co-operation and in the 'Britain in Europe' Campaign during Britain's referendum on membership of the EEC. He has always seen the Community in the wider world context and in May 1979 was elected as President of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers. His European connections were further widened by his election as President from January 1975 to May 1977 of the Comité des Organisations Professionnelles Agricoles de la CEE (COPA).

Lord PLUMB was knighted in 1973 and has received the Order of Merit from the German Federal Republic. He was created a life peer in February 1987 and took his seat in the House of Lords in April 1987.

May 1987

