

Bio Vredeling.
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BIOGRAPHICAL DATA: HENDRIKUS (HENK) VREDELING
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION OF
THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

Henk Vredeling, a native of Amersfoort, a small town near the Dutch city of Utrecht, has been active in the European Community since 1958 when he first became a member of the European Parliament. He served in the Parliament for 15 years, until he was appointed defense minister for the Netherlands in 1973. In a 1974 "White paper" on defense called "On the Security of Existence," he called for updating Holland's national security and greater efficiency in NATO's common defense system through improved specialization and greater standardization of equipment. During his tenure as minister, he emphasized quality rather than quantity in the Dutch armed forces, and sought to bring the treatment of military personnel into line with general social developments.

In 1976, Mr. Vredeling was appointed a member of the Commission, with responsibilities for employment and social affairs and the Tripartite Conference, the annual Europe-wide meeting of employers, trade union representatives and labor ministers of the nine EC member state governments. Mr. Vredeling has had previous experience with unions and with agriculture. He received an agricultural engineering degree from the University of Wageningen and for several years served as social and economic adviser to the agricultural and food workers' union of the NVV, the Dutch Federation of Trade Unions.

Mr. Vredeling is married, and the father of three sons -- aged 26, 24 and 13 -- and a daughter -- aged 22.

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Biographic sketch on Mr. Hendrikus Vredeling of The Netherlands, a participant in the International Exchange Program of the Department of State. Program arranged by Mr. Brooks T. Johnson.

NAME: Mr. Hendrikus VREDELING

PRESENT POSITION: Member of the Second Chamber of Parliament for the Labor Party, The Hague (since 1956)
*Member of the European Parliament, European Economic Community
Economic Adviser, European-Dutch Landworkers Union

PERSONAL DATA:

Born: November 20, 1924, Amersfoort, The Netherlands

Address: Rembrandtlaan 13A, Huis ter Heide, (municipality of Zeist), The Netherlands

Marital Status: Married; four children

Languages: English - good

ACADEMIC TRAINING: Diploma-Agriculture/Engineering from the University of Wageningen

OTHER POSITION: Head of the Scientific Department of the General Netherlands Agrarian Association in Utrecht

PUBLICATIONS: Various articles in journals and other publications

TRAVELS: Europe, United States (15 years ago), South America, Israel, Hungary, Romania

OTHER INTERESTS: Music (classical)

* Mr. Vredeling holds the following positions within the European Economic Community:

- 1) Vice Chairman of Agriculture Committee
- 2) Member of Committee on Foreign Trade
- 3) Member of Social Affairs Committee