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DELEGATION OF THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

PRESS AND INFORMATION

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

AMBASSADOR DIRK PETER SPIERENBURG

Former Member and Vice President of the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community

Ambassador Dirk P. Spierenburg is a former Member and Vice President of the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community (1952-1963). He was Dutch Permanent Representative to the EEC and Euratom from 1963-70, and Dutch Ambassador to NATO from 1971-74.

Before 1952 he was successively Head of the Netherlands Permanent Mission to the OEEC, Director-General of Foreign Trade, Netherlands member of the Council of Presidents of Benelux countries (Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg), and President of the Council of OEEC. He was also Assistant Commissioner General of the Dutch Marshall Plan Bureau.

In January 1979, the Commission of the European Communities in Brussels appointed Ambassador Spierenburg as Chairman of an independent review body to examine the internal organization of the Commission in view of the Community's forthcoming enlargement to include Greece, Spain and Portugal. The review body's report, Proposals for Reform of the Commission of the European Communities and its Services (generally known as "The Spierenburg Report"), was published in September. Its recommendations include a reduction in the number of Commissioners and a re-grouping of the Commission's administrative units.

Ambassador Spierenburg was born in Rotterdam, the Netherlands in 1909.

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