

## PRESSE-MEDDELELSE MITTEILUNG AN DIE PRESSE PRESS-RELEASE

## INFORMATION A LA PRESSE INFORMAZIONE ALLA STAMPA MEDEDELING AAN DE PERS

Brussels, 22 May 1974

COMMUNITY/USA EXCHANGE OF IDEAS ON ENERGY RESEARCH:

AMERICAN EXPERTS VISIT THE COMMISSION

441.2(103)

From 16 to 21 May 1974 16 representatives of American government organisations (including the National Science Foundation and USAEAC = United States Atomic Energy Commission) were guests of the European Commission. The purpose of the visit was to exchange information on research work which is being promoted under Community programmes or in the USA with public resources. The talks aimed at pinpointing areas of possible common interest. This meeting had been arranged in Washington in the summer of 1973 by Professor Ralf Dahrendorf and Dr. Guyford Stever, Director of the US National Science Foundation.

On the first two days the American guests visited the research installations of the Joint Research Centre in Ispra and Karlsruhe and the Institute for Plasma Physics in Garching, where they had discussions with the leaders of various research projects.

On 20 and 21 May 1974 working meetings were held in Brussels, with leading officials from the fields of Research, Energy, Industrial and Technological Affairs, Environmental Protection and External Relations taking part on the Commission side. The American delegation was led by Dr. Paul F. Donovan, Director for Energy Research in the National Science Foundation. Professor Ralf Dahrendorf, Member of the Commission, took the chair at the talks.

On the first day in Brussels, both sides painted a general picture of their energy research programmes. The ensuing exchange of ideas was given greater depth by an account of the analyses so far carried out of probable developments in the energy sector. The second day in Brussels began with meetings of working parties for the following fields:

- better exploitation of energy;
- -- non-electrolytic production of hydrogen and its use as a source of energy;
- solar energy;
- extraction of non-polluting energy from coal and the non-polluting mining of coal;
- geo-thermal energy;
- controlled thermonuclear fusion;
- atomic reactor safety;
- nuclear processing heat;
- method for estimating energy needs in advance and possibilities for meeting them in the future.

The technical reports of the working parties in the concluding plenary session revealed the existence in many fields of a mutual interest in deepening the information exchanges.

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