KOMMISSIONEN FOR DE EUROPÆISKE FÆLLESSKABERS – KOMMISSION DER EUROPÄISCHEN GEMEINSCHAFTEN –
COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES – COMMISSION DES COMMUNAUTES EUROPEENNES –
COMMISSIONE DELLE COMUNITÀ EUROPEE – COMMISSIE VAN DE EUROPESE GEMEENSCHAPPEN

IP (74)236

TALSMANDENS GRUPPE
SPRECHERGRUPPE
SPOKESMAN'S GROUP
GROUPE DU PORTE-PAROLE
GRUPPO DEL PORTAVOCE
BUREAU VAN DE WOORDVOERDER

PRESSE-MEDDELELSE
MITTEILUNG AN DIE PRESSE
PRESS-RELEASE

INFORMATION A LA PRESSE
INFORMAZIONE ALLA STAMPA
MEDEDELING AAN DE PERS

Brussels, 20th December 1974

441.2(102)
441.2(103)

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY'S VISITORS PROGRAMME

This programme, which is jointly sponsored by the European Parliament and the Commission of the European Communities, is now a going concern.

Four visitors have just completed their study programme at the headquarters of the Community institutions and in various locations in the Member States.

The programme is operated under the joint chairmanship of Mr. Carlo Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice-President of the Commission and Mr. Willem Schuijt, Member of the Parliament.

After an experimental phase in the latter part of 1974, the European Community plans to expand this programme in a substantial way both in numbers and geographically so that Canadians as well as Americans will be eligible in 1975.

Participants are selected for their outstanding qualities and promise of achievement and because they are embarked on careers in fields where they are likely to be able to promot closer relations between Europe and America and Canada.

Selection is made as a rule among the following professional categories:

- political (Members of Congress and state legislature as well as congressional and other political staff),
- journalists,
- trade unionists,
- members of professional organizations in the economic and social fields,
- civil servants at the federal, regional and local levels.

The programme calls for visits of approximately 30 days with the first four days devoted to the study of Community institutions in Brussels, Luxembourg or Strasbourg. The remaining part of the visits is devoted to professional contacts in the Member States. In addition to transportation, visitors receive a per diem allowance.

The programme's aim is to foster better relations between the European Community and its American and Canadian partners through better understanding of mutual problems and a common search for solutions. To some extent it may be said that it is a "reverse leader grant programme" of the type which the United States State Department has operated for a number of years and which has allowed a great number of "leader grantees" to gain a first hand knowledge of America, the land, the people, its institutions, its problems.