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ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΗ ΓΙΑ ΤΟΝ ΤΥΠΟ - INFORMAZIONE ALLA STAMPA - MEDEDELING AAN DE PERS**

Strasbourg, le 18 avril 1986.

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**COMMISSIONER STANLEY CLINTON DAVIS' INTERVENTION BEFORE THE EUROPEAN  
PARLIAMENT ON THE RESTRICTIONS IMPOSED BY THE US ON IMPORTS OF AGRICULTURE PRODUCTS**

"It must abundantly clear to everyone that the Commission's good faith cannot be in doubt. We seek a solution through negotiation, we want to avoid confrontation. But, if there is to be confrontation, it will not be of our making. Let the US be aware that confrontation could easily lead to escalation, that it could have unpredictable consequences for our bilateral relationship and thereby cast a shadow on the forthcoming GATT Round".

Commissioner Stanley Clinton Davis said this yesterday before European Parliament during a datation on the restrictions imposed by the US Government of European agriculture products. The Commissioner stated that the Commission have made clear that its willingness to talk should in no way be interpreted as a sign of weakness. "The Community must be prepared, in unity, to defend its legitimate interests, the more so as any unilateral US measures would clerly be in violation of the GATT rules".

Mr Clinton Davis said "It is for this reason that the Commission has proposed to the Council of Ministers that a list of American products, which could be the subject of countermeasures, should be prepared."

Commissioner Clinton Davis said that there is ample time to discuss any concerns of the United States within the framework of the normal GATT procedures and in a negotiation which takes into account all the advantages and disadvantages of the enlargement for American trade.

"The Commission sees no justification whatsoever for aggressive attitude of the Reagan Administration. We cannot accept being presented with an ultimatum, or rather two ultimata : one concerning the consequences of enlargement for the Portuguese oil seed and cereal market and one concerning the Spanish feed grains market. And we find it difficult to understand why the United States have raised these three precise ques-

tions only in February 1986, when the underlying basic facts were already well known as long ago as July 1985, when the accession treaties were signed. Thus we have lost at least six months during which any problems could have been sorted out in businesslike contacts" Mr Clinton Davis stated.