



IP(87)84

**PRESSE-MEDDELELSE · MITTEILUNG AN DIE PRESSE · PRESS-RELEASE · INFORMATION A LA PRESSE
ΑΝΑΚΟΙΝΩΣΗ ΓΙΑ ΤΟΝ ΤΥΠΟ · INFORMAZIONE ALLA STAMPA · MEDEDELING AAN DE PERS**

Brussels, 25 February 1987

447.2(103)
+ 420.5

**MR CARLO RIPA DI MEANA SPEAKS OF CULTURAL LINKS
BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND THE UNITED STATES**

(New York, 24 February 1987)

At a press conference in New York on 24 February 1987 Mr Ripa di Meana spoke of a number of cultural initiatives undertaken by the Community, to demonstrate to the American people that the Community is not solely concerned with trade and agriculture, that it is a group of twelve countries pursuing a wide range of cultural goals.

Mr Ripa di Meana outlined the programme of cultural activities planned in the United States this year. During the entire month of March, a series of activities under the heading "The European cultural dimension" will be organized in Chicago in close collaboration with the twelve Member States.

Chicago will also be the starting point for a mobile exhibition of photos of 39 European cities, charting their development over the centuries.

At the beginning of June the Community will be sponsoring the European Film Festival organized by the American Film Institute. The festival will be held in Washington and the films will be shown in Chicago and Los Angeles subsequently. It has been agreed that the festival will be an annual event from now on.

In addition, as part of the celebrations of the bicentenary of the American Constitution in June, there will be a Community presence at the arrival in Philadelphia of the boats representing the various Member States in the Constitution Yacht Race. Several cultural and public events will be organized to mark the occasion.

For next year talks are underway with the European Youth Orchestra, which brings together the finest young musicians from the twelve Member States under the direction of Claudio Abbado, with a view to organizing a US tour in April 1988, its fifth outside Europe.

During its US tour the orchestra will be conducted by Erich Leinsdorf, with Marilyn House as soloist. Rehearsals will begin on 29 March in Palm Beach, which will also be the venue for the opening concert on 10 April.

The orchestra will then play: in New York on 13 April and in Boston on 15 April. It will conclude its tour with a gala concert in the J.F. Kennedy Center in Washington on 17 April.