

TELEX NO. 3417

STRASBOURG 16TH JUNE , 1964

DECLARATION BY SIG. DEL BO , PRESIDENT OF THE
HIGH AUTHORITY OF THE EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY
TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

STEEL IN THE KENNEDY ROUND

'' THE HIGH AUTHORITY DOES NOT ONLY WISH TO OBTAIN FROM THE KENNEDY ROUND NEGOTIATIONS A REDUCTION IN THE STEEL TARIFFS OF THE SIX MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE COMMUNITY BUT ALSO TO ACHIEVE AN EQUITABLE POSITION VIS-A-VIS THE OTHER MAJOR STEEL PRODUCERS ... THE COMMUNITY HAS ALREADY DECIDED TO TAKE PART IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH SHOULD , IN THE OPINION OF THE HIGH AUTHORITY , LEAD TO A REDUCTION IN THE EXISTING DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PROTECTIVE TARIFFS ON STEEL '' , SAID PRESIDENT DEL BO WHEN HE TOOK PART IN EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT'S DEBATE TO-DAY ON THE HIGH AUTHORITY'S ANNUAL REPORT .

COMPETITION AND FINANCIAL POLICY

REFERRING TO THE WIDENING OF THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY INTO THE ATLANTIC COMMUNITY WHICH , FOR BOTH ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL REASONS , WAS INEVITABLE , HE SAID THAT FOR FAIR COMPETITION TO TAKE PLACE BETWEEN COMMUNITY FIRMS AND AMERICAN FIRMS , A CERTAIN DEGREE OF EQUALITY MUST BE ATTAINED . FOR THIS COMMUNITY FIRMS WOULD NECESSARILY HAVE TO INCREASE THEIR SIZE CONSIDERABLY AND THE HIGH AUTHORITY'S ATTITUDE TO BUSINESS MERGERS (WHICH IN COAL AND STEEL MUST HAVE ITS PRIOR APPROVAL) TOOK THIS INTO ACCOUNT . MERGERS HOWEVER MUST NOT PERMIT FIRMS TO ACHIEVE A DOMINANT POSITION : COMPETITION HAD TO BE MAINTAINED WHICH WOULD GUARANTEE A FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH .

FOLLOWING THE PARLIAMENT'S SUGGESTION TO THE HIGH AUTHORITY TO BE MORE AMBITIOUS IN ITS INVESTMENT POLICY, SIG. DEL BO SAID THAT IT WAS MORE THAN WILLING TO ACCEPT THIS ADVICE AND THAT THE HIGH AUTHORITY'S RECENT ACTIVITIES SHOWED ITS INTENTION TO GO FURTHER IN THE LOAN ASSISTANCE IT GAVE TO FIRMS TO MODERNISE THEIR PLANTS .

COMMON ENERGY POLICY

THE PRESIDENT OF THE HIGH AUTHORITY SAID HE WAS DELIGHTED AT THE POSITIVE ATTITUDE OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARLIAMENT'S ENERGY COMMITTEE IN UPHOLDING THE RECENT PROTOCOL OF AGREEMENT ON ENERGY AS A VERY VALUABLE STARTING POINT . BECAUSE THE PROTOCOL LINKED THE DRAWING UP OF A FULL ENERGY POLICY TO THE MERGER OF THE THREE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES , IT ESTABLISHED A TIME - TABLE WHICH MADE IT MUCH MORE THAN A SIMPLE DECLARATION OF INTENTION . THE HIGH AUTHORITY WOULD BE COMPLETING THE COMMUNITY'S PROPOSALS FOR PERMITTING SUBSIDIES TO COAL - PRODUCERS A FIRST STEP TOWARDS A COMMON ENERGY POLICY IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND IN DRAWING THESE UP WOULD TAKE PARTICULAR ACCOUNT OF THE SOCIAL CHARGES ON THE COAL INDUSTRY , THE COST OF MODERNISATION AND THE EFFECT OF OBSTACLES HINDERING THE EXTRACTION AND SALE OF COAL .

EXTENSION OF PARLIAMENTARY POWERS

SIG. DEL BO DECLARED HIMSELF VERY PLEASED WITH THE SATISFACTION OF MANY DEPUTIES AT THE CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN IT AND THE HIGH AUTHORITY . '' WE ARE CONVINCED OF THE VITAL NECESSITY OF OBTAINING A REINFORCEMENT OF THE PARLIAMENT'S POWERS FROM THE SIX GOVERNMENTS , '' HE SAID , '' BUT WE ARE EQUALLY CONVINCED TO THE DUTY OF THE COMMUNITY EXECUTIVES , IF THIS REINFORCEMENT SHOULD BE DELAYED OR SHOULD BE ONLY PARTLY ACCORDED , TO RECOGNISE THE PARLIAMENT'S FUNDAMENTAL LEGISLATIVE POWERS AND ITS ULTIMATE SOVEREIGNTY '' .

CLOSING HIS ADDRESS , PRESIDENT DEL BO ANNOUNCED THAT ,
AT THE REQUEST OF THE PARLIAMENT , THE HIGH AUTHORITY WAS DRAWING
UP A DOCUMENT TO INFORM THE PARLIAMENT AND EUROPEAN PUBLIC OPINION ,
BEFORE THE MERGER OF THE THREE EUROPEAN EXECUTIVE BODIES OF THE
POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE HIGH AUTHORITY'S WORK OVER THE LAST
TWELVE YEARS AND THE WAY IN WHICH IT HAD EXERCISED ITS SUPRANATIONAL
POWERS . IT WOULD ALSO INDICATE HOW THE NEW SINGLE EXECUTIVE TO
BE CREATED WOULD HAVE TO WIELD SUPRANATIONAL POWER . '' WE FULLY
SUPPORT THE DEMAND THAT THE MERGER OF THE COMMUNITIES SHOULD
PRODUCE AN INCREASE , AND NOT A REDUCTION , IN THE POWERS OF THE
COMMUNITY , AND THAT THE SUPRANATIONAL POWERS OF THE HIGH AUTHORITY
SHOULD NOT BE ABANDONED BUT , ON THE CONTRARY , EXTENDED TO
OTHER SECTORS .''

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