

# european parliament

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## THE SITTINGS

LUXEMBOURG, 4th – 8th July 1977

### THE WEEK

There are four points to underline from Parliament's July session in Luxembourg: Finn Gundelach's wholehearted endorsement of Britain's ban on herring fishing in the North Sea; Etienne Davignon's fears for steel jobs: one in seven on the 750,000 employees in the industry could be out of work in the next five years; Henri Simonet's determination to see what headway can be made on the Commission's plans for raising loans: Roy Jenkins has Parliament's support here; and Christopher Tugendhat's 8 billion pounds budget for 1978.

Another, possibly no less important, point concerns Parliament's relations with the Commission. John Prescott (Br,S) raised a point of order on Wednesday because the Commission had just made an announcement – outside the House – about textile import controls. Roy Jenkins took his point. He said he would consider whether more announcements could be made to Parliament in future.

Well, the day after, Guido Brunner began his reply to a debate on where power stations ought to go by telling the House that the British had just lifted their reserve on funding joint research, meaning of course that the four-year 346m u.a. (144 million pounds) programme can now go ahead. Mr Brunner added: 'Because you, the Parliament, have for a long time been working to achieve this end I thought you had the right to hear the news first'.

## **MONDAY**

### **Action taken on Parliament's advice**

Mr Richard Burke, speaking in French, told the House that the Commission had amended its proposal for giving Community aid to finance the use of coal in power stations. Lord Bessborough (Br,EC) had suggested that a fifth of total aid be earmarked for enterprises agreeing to use Community coal only. The Commission had accepted this suggestion.

### **Malta's changing role**

The European Parliament, in approving the rules governing a Financial Protocol concluded with Malta, took advantage of the opportunity to discuss the island's changing role.

Mr Aldo Ajello (It,S) said it was good to see Malta's role changing from being a fortress to becoming a link between the north and south of the Mediterranean. Mr Christopher Price agreed and he drew attention to the particularly valuable links between Malta and Libya.

Mr James Spicer (Br,EC) on the other hand was concerned with establishing links between the European Parliament and the parliament of Malta. He would be making informal contacts with this end in view.

The aid extended to Malta incidentally amounts to nearly 16 million pounds.

### **Fresh hope for Channel Tunnel?**

Mr Cornelis Berkhouwer (Du,L), who must rank as one of the most determined supporters of the Channel Tunnel idea, reminded the European Parliament of the immense psychological value that the Tunnel could have: 'if there were fog, you could no longer say that the continent was cut off' he argued. As for the cost, why should not the man in the street be encouraged to purchase 25 pound shares in the scheme?

The occasion for the debate was a couple of Commission proposals which could bring the Tunnel two steps nearer. The first is a proposal to set up a committee

to look into such projects as the Channel Tunnel and the second is a proposal whereby aid could be given to finance such projects.

The European Parliament unanimously approved both proposals. Thanking the House for its support, Commissioner Richard Burke suggested that the cost of the project, estimated at 800 million pounds at the time when it was abandoned in 1973 would probably be nearer 1,250 million now. (The money could, it is believed, be raised from the European Investment Bank in the interests of regional development).

### **Electronic traffic aids**

The House this evening endorsed a Commission proposal calling on the EC to sign a joint declaration of intent to implement COST project 30, a system of electronic traffic aids on major roads that is one of five specific projects in the field of transport covered by the COST programme.

COST – the Committee on European Cooperation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research – comprises the Community and ten other European countries. Participating states are being asked to sign a declaration of intent (called, officially, the Memorandum of Understanding) pledging themselves to cooperation in the project. This form was adopted so as to avoid the time-consuming procedure of ratification by national parliaments. But it has the drawback of not being legally binding on the signatories.

Project 30 itself is expected to cost around 5 million u.a. (2.08 million pounds) at 1976 prices, and includes research on aural and visual communication inside vehicles, electronic road signs, automatic bad weather warnings, etc. A comprehensive European network of such aids can be expected to cut accidents, relieve congestion, speed up traffic communication and save fuel.

But as rapporteur Kai Nyborg (Da,EPD) pointed out in the report, putting the results of this research into practice will cost a fortune. And he expressed reservations about the possible dangers of 'overkill' in supplying information to drivers – too much could be just as confusing as too little.

## TUESDAY

### Steel jobs fear

One in seven of the 750,000 jobs in the steel industry could be under threat in the next five years Commissioner Etienne Davignon told Parliament in reply to a debate on his plans for saving the industry.

Main feature of his plans, which include imposing some minimum prices and keeping a very close watch on imports (with firm action on dumping), is to modernize the industry to the point where it will be really competitive in the 1980s.

He added that the 1980 production target of 183 million tonnes would have to be revised downwards. (In 1976 the industry produced 134 million tonnes while working at 60 percent capacity and not all of this found buyers). As to the actual new target figure, the Commission was getting together with steel makers and governments to try to come up with the answer by the end of the year.

## QUESTION TIME

### QUESTIONS TO THE COMMISSION

#### *1. New fishing techniques (Kai Nyborg)*

Finn Gundelach told Kai Nyborg (Da,EPD) that work had already begun on new fishing techniques. This was essentially a matter for the Member States, the Commission's role being to try to coordinate the work being done. But the Commission first needed the Council to accept a Commission proposal on the structure of the fisheries.

This would, for example, involve concentrating on new species of fish. Mr Nyborg wanted to know if deep sea fish would be covered. Mr Gundelach said 'yes'. Tam Dalyell (Br,S) then asked what progress had been made as regards the blue whiting and John Corrie (Br,EC) asked if the Commission would encourage the fishing of new species for industrial uses. Mr Gundelach told Mr Dalyell that progress was being made as regards blue whiting and, in reply to Mr Corrie, said he would encourage the industrial use of new species.

## *2. Polyurethane foam and other polymeric materials (Ronald Brown)*

Viscount Davignon told Ronald Brown (Br,S) that the Commission noted the points he mentioned regarding the fire risk of flexible polyurethane foam and that he would be getting in touch with the British Government on this point. The Commission's aim is to draw up directives that require goods to be as they are described to be. Secondly, goods must meet safety standards. Mr Brown then drew attention to the degree of risk. An armchair with polyurethane foam in it could, if it caught fire, produce a temperature of 650 degrees after 30 seconds. Viscount Davignon took his point.

## *3. Electrically driven car for the physically disabled (Sir Geoffrey de Freitas)*

Viscount Davignon pointed out that the industry involved was a highly specialized one. But a working party of experts from industry and governments had been set up 'I think the chances of progress are good' he said. Lady Fisher of Rednal (Br,S) (for Sir Geoffrey de Freitas) thanked the Commission for this heartening reply and asked if the House could be kept informed. It was by work in areas such as this that the Community could show its human face. Viscount Davignon said he would do so. In reply to John Osborn (Br,EC) he added that the first aim was to ensure the car was a feasible, safe proposition. He told Mr Tom Normanton (Br,EC) that a meeting of the experts concerned had been held in March.

## *4. Article 100 of the Treaty of Rome (Sir Derek Walker-Smith) (Common laws to make the EC work)*

President Roy Jenkins said in reply to Sir Derek Walker-Smith (Br,EC) that the Commission's job in assessing whether proposals for common laws meet the requirements of Article 100 (i.e. whether they are really needed to make the EC work) is one of striking a balance between sometimes conflicting aims. Sir Derek asked him if the Commission would avoid what 'The Guardian' called 'the more obvious lunacies perpetrated in the name of harmonization.' Mr Jenkins said he would avoid all lunacies, including the more obvious ones. On the other hand the Commission's job was to see the Community added up to a free market and, by the same token, to see to it that products sold were what they were said to be. He shared Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody's (Br,S) concern about excesses but stressed that labels, for example, must mean something.



#### *5. The pig cycle rides again! (Mrs Winifred Ewing)*

Every first-year economist learns with fascination about the pig cycle (the rapid swings in pig-meat production from dearth to glut, due to the fecundity of sows). Is it any longer valid? asked Mr Horst Haase (Ge,S). According to Commissioner Gundelach it is; 'we are now coming out of the low', he said.

The initial question came from Winnie Ewing (Br,Ind), and dealt with 'the disastrous situation facing the British pig-producing industry'. Commissioner Gundelach agreed that the pig-producers have been experiencing difficulties during the last 8 to 10 months. He assured the House that the situation had not been aggravated by the operation of MCAs. Exports had decreased in proportion to consumption. Subsidies had been given to the stockpiling of pigmeat, and stocks in fact had shown a considerable increase during the last week of June. The Commissioner refuted the claim of Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody (Br,S) that the whole thing was part of a deliberate policy to push up the cost to the consumer.

#### *6. Recipes for processed products (James Spicer)*

One of the more recondite byways of the CAP is the preparation by Brussels of 'model' recipes for processed food products, used in the calculation of Monetary Compensatory Amounts. James Spicer (Br,EC) asked the Commission why one of the relevant amending regulations had not been printed in English (or Danish for that matter); and whether there were any plans for further updating. Yes, replied Commissioner Davignon, there were such plans; and care would be taken to ensure that this time they were in all the six languages. He would also issue instructions to make sure that all texts were available in English and Danish.

#### *7. EC-India relations (Schelto Patijn)*

Commissioner Haferkamp told Schelto Patijn (Du,S) of prospects for strengthening cooperation with India within the framework of the present agreement. There already exists cooperation between firms manufacturing heavy machines, leather goods and tobacco. He admitted to Pierre-Bernard Cousté (Fr,EPD) that there was regret in India concerning restrictive practices adopted by the Community in the textile sector, among others.

*8. United Community capital market (Sir Brandon Rhys Williams)*

Commissioner Christopher Tugendhat agreed with Sir Brandon Rhys Williams (Br,EC) that a united Community capital market would be desirable as it would bring about a closer alignment on interest charged for loans. The key, he said, was to reduce the inflationary pressures prevailing in Member States. Progress in this field had already been made by the harmonization of rules for financial transactions.

*9. Does your doctor speak your language? (Pierre-Bernard Cousté)*

Pierre-Bernard Cousté (Fr,EPD) said he was delighted to hear from Commissioner Davignon that the directive allowing EC doctors to practise anywhere within the Community was now being implemented by all Member States except Italy, which was having difficulties. Replying to Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody (Br,S) who asked what would be done to safeguard patients from being treated by a doctor who did not speak their language, the Commissioner expressed confidence that a doctor would not move to a country if he could not speak the local language properly.

*10. Public works contracts in Italy (Jan Broeksz)*

The Italian Government has now introduced legislation on awarding public works contracts which tallied with the EC Treaty, Commissioner Davignon told Jan Broeksz (Du,S). It was regrettable that this had taken so long but now that steps had been taken, the Commission could only wait to see how the law would work in practice.

*11. Toxicity of bio-proteins (Michele Cifarelli)*

Finn Gundelach told Michele Cifarelli (It,L) that the Commission would be submitting a directive on bio-proteins and the treatment of waste to the Council in a few weeks time, and Parliament would be seeing it then. But he declined to give details of the proposals until then.

## *12. Nationalization of banks in Portugal (Michel Inchauspé)*

Commissioner Christopher Tugendhat told Mr Inchauspé (Fr,EPD) – and a number of other Members who put supplementary questions – that Art. 22 of the EC Treaty states quite clearly that ‘this Treaty shall in no way prejudice the rules in Member States governing the system of property ownership’. This clearly covered bank ownership. Christopher Price (Br,S) pointed out that one thing the Community should not do was to interfere in how a country like Portugal developed towards democracy.

## *13. Isoglucose (Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody)*

The question of taxing isoglucose, Finn Gundelach told Gwyneth Dunwoody (Br,S), was a complex one – the isoglucose producers complained they would be taxed out of business, and the sugar producers felt that isoglucose would corner their market if it weren’t taxed. He agreed with Mr John Evans (Br,S) and Mrs Dunwoody – who described the proposals as another example of the stupidity of the CAP – that consideration would of course have to be given to the question of saving jobs – ‘we have,’ he said, ‘a serious surplus of sugar in the Community’.

## *14. Multinationals (Willy Dondelinger)*

The Commission had given full consideration to the Maldagh report on multinationals, and would certainly be willing to ‘fight’ if the multis proved unwilling to cooperate, Etienne Davignon said in reply to a question from Willy Dondelinger (Lu,S)

## **Of zips, acrylic socks, bicycle wheels and ball-bearings . . .**

Although anxious to avoid protectionism, the Community is concerned about dumping by third countries. Pierre-Bernard Cousté (Fr) on behalf of the European Progressive Democrats asked the Commission to assess the situation and to say whether it intends to change its procedures for dealing with the problem. As Mr Cousté explained, many products were involved: acrylic socks from Taiwan and Korea, wood-panels from Brazil, spades from Eastern Europe.

However it was Japanese products — zips, data-processing equipment, cameras and films which were dominating the market.

In reply Commissioner Wilhelm Haferkamp agreed that this is important. However, to deal with it specific measures are needed. He reported that procedures were devised last year and published in the Official Journal. A proposal was in fact today submitted by the Commission to the Council concerning measures to deal with the dumping of Japanese ball-bearings. Japanese producers had also entered into an agreement concerning price-fixing. The Commissioner repeated that anti-dumping procedures have to be specific and of limited applicability. He went on to stress that it is necessary to prove that dumping is taking place and that it is detrimental to home producers. We must ensure that we do not protect our own producers operating a cartel, and that our industries become more competitive.

Much of the ensuing debate was concerned, implicitly at any rate, with the distinction between dumping and legitimate low-priced competition, and how far anti-dumping measures could go before they became protectionist.

John Osborn (Br,EC) said that imports of cutlery from third countries had 'almost eliminated' domestic production in his constituency, and hand tools and engineering tools were also feeling the sting of cut-price competition.

Lord Brimelow (Br,S) spoke of competition from foreign products that were cheaply priced thanks to low wages and/or very high productivity; here there was no question of dumping, but the effects on domestic production were similar.

But Michel Inchauspé (Fr,EPD) felt that such low-priced competition could indeed constitute dumping — 'social dumping' : by exploiting the 'sub-proletariat', some countries could keep wage-costs down to unrealistically low levels. This was something the Community should not tolerate.

Heinrich Aigner (Ge,CD), who cited a recent example of shirts being sold on the German market at DM 1.50 (0.40 pounds), pointed out that any measures the Community took could have a snowball effect on any number of other economies. 'We're not building the Community on the moon,' he said.

Charles Fletcher-Cooke (Br,EC) saw positive action against dumping as having a positive psychological effect on Community citizens by showing that the EC could do more than merely dole out subsidies.

Communist spokesman Silvio Leonardi (It) warned against the dangers of an anti-dumping witch-hunt turning into over protectionism. We should be careful, he said, that the alarm bells don't start ringing over every imported product which happens to be cheaper than the home-produced version.

### **Wooing Peking**

At the present time a Community delegation is visiting Peking and, as Commissioner Wilhelm Haferkamp told the House this evening, is conducting talks with a view to outlining an agreement with the People's Republic of China. Introducing his Committee's report on economic and trade with China, Kai Nyborg explained that China now sees the EC as a strong counter-balance to the USA and the Soviet Union. Several speakers commended the report as being extremely realistic. Lord Bessborough pointed out that although China had the largest population in the world – 900 million – it was not, however, a consumer society and industrialization would have to be approached methodically. He suggested that the Commission endeavour to establish a permanent delegation in Peking. The House in general saw the enhancing of trade relations as a way of securing world peace.

### *The debate*

Introducing on Gabriel Kaspereit's (Fr,EPD) behalf the Committee on External Economic Relation's report on relations with the People's Republic of China, Kai Nyborg (Da,EPD) explained that China's interest in the EC dates back to her split with the USSR in 1960. China now sees the EC as a strong counter-balance to the USA and Russia. Community exports to China are promising, with German, French and UK products in the lead.

Lord Bessborough (Br,EC) went on to comment that China is at a new stage of development, and supports Europe's efforts to unite. This country of 900 million people is, however, not a consumer society and therefore industrialization requires a methodical approach. He asked the Commission whether it might be possible to establish a permanent delegation in Peking.

Lucien Radoux (Be,S) said his group had welcomed the visit of Christopher Soames to Peking in 1975. China is looking to a multi-polar world, and also has economic reasons for seeking rapprochement with the EEC.

Italian Christian Democrat Ernesto Pucci commended the report as being extremely realistic. Although progress has been slow during the past year both sides are aware of the importance of enhancing relations. Economic cooperation was the cornerstone of peace and prosperity, he said.

Andrea Mascagni (It,CA) also applauded the report's realism. This is an area in which the Community could enhance its role as a world power as China was important to the third world.

Tam Dalyell (Br,S) asked the Commission whether there would be a statement on the delegation currently visiting China. In reply Commissioner Wilhelm Haferkamp said that the Community delegation now in Peking was conducting explanatory talks with a view to outlining an agreement. He could not yet comment on the possibility of setting up a joint committee. Much depends on our Chinese partners, he said.

### **EC relations with Norway, Sweden, Finland and Iceland**

On July 1st the Customs Union between the Nine countries of the Common Market became a fact. The Community also has a Customs Union with the EFTA countries and the effect of this is to make Europe an extremely important trading bloc.

Despite this, however, concern is felt by some Members of the European Parliament that the Community is too southward-looking. This concern was reflected in a motion tabled by Mr Jens Maigaard (Da,CA) calling on the Commission to report on how cooperation with Norway, Sweden, Finland and Iceland can be stepped up. The motion was agreed to.

### **786,967,339 u.a. added to 1977 budget**

Parliament has approved a first supplementary budget for 1977. This adds 786,967,339 u.a. to the original 1977 budget total of 8,880,026,869 u.a. to give a new total of 9,586,994,208 u.a. The main new expenditure being incurred stems from the farm price increases agreed early this year.

## WEDNESDAY

### QUESTION TIME

#### QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL

##### *1. Oil prices (Kai Nyborg)*

Mr Simonet told Mr Nyborg that the Commission had been looking into prices charged by oil companies within the Community. He would ask if the information they came up with could be made available to governments and, possibly, to the House. He added 'possibly' because he seemed to remember that information from the oil companies was usually given on the understanding it be regarded as confidential.

##### *2. Collecting VAT : regulation on this now a priority (Pierre-Bernard Cousté)*

Henri Simonet said that getting a regulation adopted on how VAT was to be collected for Community use was one of the Council's main priorities.

##### *3. Human rights in ACP. Action against Uganda but what about Ethiopia asks Jim Spicer*

Mr Simonet told the House that the Council had decided, on June 21st, that any aid to be given by the Community to one of the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries under the Lomé Convention should not have as its effect the deprivation of human rights for the people of that country. John Prescott (Br,S) asked if a recognition of human rights could be made a condition of aid.

Mr Simonet replied that the convention to follow up the one signed in Lomé and covering the years after 1980 would contain a statement of principles of the kind EMPs had in mind. But the problem was how to act without being vulnerable to criticisms of neo-colonialism. One had to balance this risk against one's concern about the points raised. The decision on Uganda was made much easier by the fact that some of the Black African countries had already taken a line on this. Jim Spicer (Br,EC) wanted to know why action could not be taken against Ethiopia and Mr Simonet told Mr Spicer that the Nine had no common position on this point.

4. *Use of bribes by multinationals (Willie Hamilton)*

Henri Simonet said the Council had not looked into this question but suggested to Mr Brown that the Commission could cover it in conjunction with its proposals concerning the aeronautical industry.

5. *An independent Scotland would have to negotiate for membership in the same way as any other country (Tam Dalyell)*

This was pretty nearly as much as Mr Simonet was willing to say in respect of Mr Dalyell's (Br,S) question on the legal problems of EC membership. As for predictions of future election results in the UK, he added, he had never been particularly struck by their accuracy.

6. *Jobs and Social Fund resources (Ralph Howell)*

Mr Simonet said he thought the figure for social policy being proposed in the 1977 budget was about right. Several EMPs suggested than an 11 per cent increase was not sufficient.

7. *'The gift of prophecy does not come with the job' answers Council President Simonet when asked when negotiations with Greece will conclude (John Corrie)*

Mr Simonet told the House that negotiations with Greece were being conducted on the basis of the 'intrinsic merits' of the case. There had been eight meetings since the negotiations began on July 27th 1976, two at ministerial level and six at deputy level. As for relations with Turkey, Greece's application for membership could not be made dependent on a condition over which it had no complete control.

8. *Site for JET (Cornelis Berkhouwer)*

Mr Simonet told Cornelis Berkhouwer (Du,L) that a vote has not yet been taken on the siting of the JET project. Bob Mitchell (Br,S) intervened to say that the decision should be taken as soon as possible and by majority vote. Ronald



Brown (Br,S) felt that the sole criterion should be to find the best place and experts agreed that this was Culham.

*9. Can you tell margarine from fish? (Mrs Winnie Ewing)*

Mr Simonet told Winnie Ewing (Br,Ind) that the Council was currently discussing the issue of sovereignty of Member States when dealing with proposals concerning fish stocks. He appreciated her point that fishermen, usually among the least militant members of society, might take part in demonstrations to safeguard their livelihood. Upon a supplementary question put by Tam Dalyell (Br,S) asking what, for the Council's purposes, was the difference between fish eaten as fish and fish used in margarine, Bob Mitchell (Br,S) retorted 'the taste'.

## **QUESTIONS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE NINE MEMBER STATES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY MEETING IN POLITICAL COOPERATION**

*1. Soviet Jews (Mrs Winnie Ewing)*

The House was unhappy with Mr Simonet's reply to Mrs Ewing (Br,Ind) who asked whether the Nine would take a common stand at Belgrade on the freedom of the individual to leave his country — with particular reference to Soviet Jews. Mr Simonet argued that while remaining anxious to uphold human rights, the Community should adopt a realistic external policy in order not to jeopardize détente. We should not, then, conduct a 'crusade to clear up the morals of our partners'. This was not good enough, replied Ronald Brown (Br,S). 'We should put freedom first, economic issues afterwards'. More specifically, Lord Bethell (Br,EC) asked if the case of Soviet Jew Anatoly Shcharansky could be raised on an individual basis at the Belgrade Conference. Mr Simonet replied that human rights would be raised but added that this did not mean that individual aspects should be left out of the whole range of problems raised by détente and which had to be dealt with in Belgrade.

*2. Leeds Castle on the Community (Michele Cifarelli)*

Was it true, as press reports claimed, that certain foreign ministers had declared at the Leeds Castle Conference that a Member State should leave the

Community if it ceased to be governed in a democratic manner? Mr Simonet replied that as the conference had been an informal meeting with no minutes or decision-taking, he was unable to reply. The House would indeed, as Lord Bethell (Br,S) enquired, have to reply on 'vague leaks from the press'. Anyway, he did not feel this was a serious problem; the eventuality implied in the question was unlikely at present.

### *3. Air transport (Sir Derek Walker-Smith)*

The Warsaw Convention of 1929 on air transport of passengers and cargo has been updated by two protocols. Should Member States which have not ratified these – only the UK, Denmark and Belgium have do so so far – be urged to do so? This had not yet been discussed, replied Mr Simonet, but he would pass the House's comments on to his colleagues.

### *4. Investments in Southern Africa (Christopher Price)*

The Nine were showing concern about the political situation in Southern Africa, Mr Simonet told the House. However it was not possible to stop private investors from transferring funds there.

### **State of the Community : fears and some hopes**

Parliament then had an opportunity to take stock of the state of the Community. The occasion : an address by the incoming Council President – in this case Belgian Foreign Minister and former Commissioner Henri Simonet. In a speech delivered in, alternately, French, Flemish, English and German, Mr Simonet swept from the general – 'we shall be pursuing . . . the achievement of European Union' – to the specific – 'the EIB will have to increase its support for investments in the energy sector'. But his main thrust was clear : get the Community moving again. And that, in the immediate future, meant 'the fight against inflation and unemployment, especially that of young people and women'. Commission President Roy Jenkins, who also addressed the House, listed some of the Commission's achievements since it took office last January: plans to tackle the steel crisis, an anti-inflationary farm-price increase, changes to make the Social and Regional Funds more effective. Speakers in the debate differed in their reactions to the keynote speeches. Points raised included youth unemployment, reform of the CAP, JET, and herring – 'must Britannia rule the

waves at the expense of Dutch herring fishermen? ' asked Cornelis Berkhouwer (Du,L). Several speakers, indeed, were critical of Britain for its allegedly unconstructive handling of the presidency and its approach to the Community in general.

### *The debate*

Socialist Group spokesman Pierre Giraud (Fr) appealed for realism – 'the ideal' he said, 'is the construction of Europe, but reality is the conditions with which we are faced'. Europe was a longterm project: the main thing was to realize that it was a joint project, and not everything could be of benefit to every country.

Mr Egon Klepsch (Ge), for the Christian Democrats, was less conciliatory. He pointed his finger squarely at the British presidency of the Council which, he said, had shown little constructive spirit. But he also warned against the danger of describing failures – in whatever sphere – as Community failures, but heralding successes as national victories.

Liberal spokesman Cornelis Berkhouwer was equally disparaging about the British presidency and its attitude in general. 'Must Britannia rule the waves to the detriment of Dutch herring fishermen? ' he asked. Britain should learn not to blame all its misfortunes on the Community.

Mr Pierre-Bernard Cousté (Fr), who spoke for the European Progressive Democrats, was less pessimistic. Europe had made progress, and we should get out of the habit of expecting miracles from every European Council.

For the European Conservatives, Lord Bessborough (Br) hoped that President Simonet (former Energy Commissioner) would prove able to resolve the deadlock on the siting of JET. And he hoped the Belgian presidency would have more success than the British one, particularly with the twin problems of unemployment and inflation.

Communist spokesman Altiero Spinelli (It) was critical of the Commission's failure to act on reforming the CAP during its first six months in office. We would soon be faced with a bumper grain crop, and would then have to look on as the EAGGF spent millions to prop up grain prices.

We must think within the framework of a directly elected Parliament, Mr Spinelli continued. The UK must not hold up direct elections. Nor should Belgium delay the own resources system by proposing changes in the rules for collecting VAT. His group supported Mr Simonet's programme but did not want any old Europe. Each of the institutions should do its work as laid down in the Treaty of Rome.

Mrs Winifred Ewing (Br, Ind) said that Mr Callaghan was right to make a public reappraisal of the advantages and disadvantages of British membership of the Community. The public, she said, should be made more aware of the EC's achievements so that it appeared more than merely 'a dressed-up charade'. However, misleading statements had been made by pro-marketeers, particularly on fishing and North Sea oil. She deplored the fact that a Dutch fleet had recently been allowed to catch herring because a Dutch village was celebrating a herring-eating festival while Scottish fishermen were unemployed as a result of the herring fishing ban.

Concerning the CAP, Mrs Ewing said the EC could usefully study the British marketing boards.

British Socialist Lord Bruce of Donington hit out at previous speakers who had criticized Britain on various counts. Westminster was often slow to act, but its decisions had frequently proved right in the end. Indeed it was not the UK which was jolting up approval of the financial regulation. He went on to call the Commission to task for its delay in acting upon the Maldagh report, despite Commissioner Etienne Davignon's promise to make real endeavours.

Mrs Elaine Kellett-Bowman (Br, EC) shared the House's concern about youth unemployment. Not all national measures were useful, she said, for instance, in Dorset as part of the Job Creation Scheme it had been suggested that young people be paid 50 pounds per week to feed cheese and sugar to ants affected by the drought. On the other hand, she had just visited a youth centre in Germany where young apprentices from the UK and France were being trained as insufficient apprenticeships were being taken up by Germans. This kind of project should be encouraged and given Community assistance, she said. Belgian Christian Democrat Alfred Bertrand complimented Mr Simonet on having put forward a realistic programme. He went on to call on the Council of Ministers to fix a definite date for direct elections. On enlargement he said that this would cause institutional problems as the Nine found it difficult to reach decisions already. Mr Bertrand had not been happy with the British presidency of the

Council, which, he said, had acted out of national interest. JET was a supreme example of this. The Council had been presented with a choice of two sites for the project and had lacked the political courage to decide. What was the man in the street to make of this?

Among the other speakers, Belgian Liberal Paul De Clercq said the number of recommendations and resolutions put forward about unemployment were evidence of the Commission's determination. What, he wondered, was the Council's attitude? He said he personally particularly welcomed the Commission's job premium proposal. This could be a good first step.

German Socialist Erwin Lange was concerned about the Community's links with the EFTA countries. The Community, he said, should not look one way only.

The last speaker was Mr John Prescott (Br, S), who was somewhat bemused by what he called the Alice-in-Wonderland attitude of Mr Simonet. He was disturbed to see Mr Simonet in pursuit of Tindeman's goals and economic and monetary union. These were, he felt, at one remove from reality.

In reply, Mr Simonet said that the Tindeman's report had not, as far as he knew, been abandoned and it did lay down certain essential conditions for union. As for progress towards economic and monetary union, this had now become indispensable, if only to stop the Community from falling apart.

Turning to a point raised about the distinction between the Council of the Community and the Council of Foreign Ministers, he said it was beginning to blur but it would be there for some time. There was a distinction between what the Community could do under the Treaty and the new area in which they were now operating.

As regards loans, Mr Simonet said that the idea had met with some resistance at the European Council but it had not been rejected. The Finance Ministers would return to it and he suggested that the Commission should back up its proposal by suggesting the structural measures that loans could facilitate.

He rejected Mr Prescott's criticisms.

Replying in turn, Mr Roy Jenkins thanked the House for its support for the Commission proposal on loans. He recognized that some Member States had a preference for operating through the European Investment Bank — possibly

because the EIB was under tighter governmental control. But he would be pushing ahead with it.

Mr Jenkins said he had been surprised by Lord Bruce of Donington's speech, 'I have not become President of the Commission after 25 years in Parliament in order to be a political eunuch', he said.

Lastly concerning economic and monetary union, he thought it was a mistake to recoil from EMU in horror. Many of the Community's problems such as those over the CAP, MCAs etc. stemmed from a lack of any approach to union.

### **The Community and the small firm**

In reply to an oral question put down for debate by a number of Communist Members, Mr Simonet stressed the vital role of the small firm in the European Community.

The Commission would shortly be proposing a series of measures in the interests of small and medium-sized firms. He was careful to add that the Council has no official relationship between any body representing European firms of any kind.

### **The European Passport**

In reply to an oral question put down for debate by Mr Cornelis Berkhouwer (Du, L), Mr Simonet said that there was still disagreement, at Council level, on such points as the languages to be used on the European passport: the cover of the passport – should the reference to the issuing State come before the reference to the European Community – and the legal basis and form of the act creating the European passport. He hoped it would be possible to find generally acceptable answers on these points.

### **North-South dialogue**

In reply to an oral question put down by Mr Gabriel Kaspereit (Fr, EPD) and Miss Colette Flesch (Lu, L), Commissioner Claude Cheysson said he thought that the discussions about energy problems within the North-South dialogue had been much more valuable than was generally believed. He was careful to

underline the positive results of the dialogue: the agreement on the joint fund for raw materials; the willingness of third world countries to use raw materials prices as a means of increasing their influence; the agreement on agriculture and food supplies and the agreement on developing communications in Africa.

He found it regrettable, however, that no agreement had been reached on the fundamental problem of debts. On the other hand he reminded the House that the United States and Japan had decided to double their official aid to third countries. Such results, said Mr Cheysson, were not enough of themselves but they were a step in the right direction.

### **Political situation in Spain**

Parliament agreed to a motion expressing satisfaction at the organization of the recent elections in Spain. Parliament sees this as a decisive step towards democracy.

### **Herring ban**

Kippers could well disappear from the British table altogether in the near future unless there is a complete ban on herring fishing in the North Sea for at least a year and maybe longer. (There are herring in the Celtic Sea, the Bristol Channel and off the West Coast of Scotland but dwindling supplies are bound to hit prices.)

The ban is to allow the present 150,000 tonnes of herring stock capable of reproduction to be built up to something nearer 800,000 tonnes.

Even if catches were limited to 75,000 tonnes a year the 'spawning stock biomass' would remain at a dangerously low level for a long time. This is why the Commission had endorsed the UK's action in imposing the North Sea herring fishing ban, Finn Gundelach told Parliament. Britain's action is legal, of course, because the ban also applies the British fishermen.

The herring scarcity is due to overfishing. In 1975, Mark Hughes (Br, S) told Parliament 2,460 million one-year old herrings were extracted from the North Sea. 'The sins of that year will be visited on the herring fishermen of Europe for more than a decade', he said. To make life easier for Dutch and Danish skippers

affected by the ban, however, Mr Hughes suggested they should be given quotas in herrings or other fish in other Community waters.

The ban, which could last well into 1979, could make the kipper something of a gourmet treat by then.

## THURSDAY

### European Parliament's broad backing for Commission's draft budget for 1978

The consensus in the European Parliament's budget debate was that the Commission has, under the circumstances, produced a good draft budget for the Community in 1978.

The key figures (in commitment appropriations) are as follows:

	Commission's preliminary draft (million pounds)	1977 budget (million pounds)	percentage increase
Total	8,232	6,742	22
including			
CAP	5,471	4,766	14
Social Policy	384	344	12
Regional Fund	493	261	88
Research, energy	323	181	78
Development aid	612	338	81
Administration	373	319	17

(Actual figures in the 1978 draft budget appear, for the first time, in European Units of Account (EUA). 1 EUA is 0.658 pounds)

There are fears that the Council, to whom the draft budget is now submitted, may not be willing to go along with all the Commission's proposals.



## *The debate*

Budgets Commissioner Christopher Tugendhat today presented the Commission's preliminary draft estimates for the Community's 1978 budget – totalling 12,512 million EUA (8,232 million pounds). But even this figure – up 22 per cent over the 1977 budget – is extremely small by conventional standards, representing as it does just 2.15 per cent of Member States' budgets and a mere 0.69 per cent of total Community GNP. An amount of this sort, Mr Tugendhat told the House, would have an almost imperceptible macro-economic effect on the overall EC economy (except in the agricultural sector).

The 1978 budget did, of course, reflect the current recessionary climate, and the Commission had been under some pressure to 'rein in' EC spending.

'Obligatory' expenditure (i.e. resulting directly from the Treaties) accounted for four-fifths of this year's total (9,827m EUA – 6,466 million pounds), non-obligatory expenditure amounting to 2,685m EUA (1,767m pounds).

As usual, agriculture took the lion's share, Mr Tugendhat said. Total CAP expenditure of 8,315m EUA (5,471m pounds) was somewhat down as a percentage of the total budget from last year's figure. (69 per cent instead of 74 per cent). The 'guarantee section' of the EAGGF (i.e. farm price support) accounts for 62 per cent of the draft budget (7,795m EUA – 5,129m pounds).

More money was also being asked for the Guidance Section of the EAGGF to encourage structural reform in agriculture.

As for the non-agricultural side of the budget, Commissioner Tugendhat said the emphasis had to be on combating the EC's economic weaknesses. The Regional Fund, at 750m EUA (493m pounds), was up 88 per cent over 1977, and included 100m EUA (66m pounds) for new projects. And the Social Fund, at 536m EUA (353m pounds) – payment credits – was up no less than 218 per cent.

There were also proposals for more spending in industrial research – Mr Tugendhat mentioned the computer and aerospace industries – although the Council was likely to cut much of this. Development aid was also up.

In conclusion, Mr Tugendhat referred to the other new features of the 1978 budget – it was the first to be financed from VAT own resources, the first to be

expressed in European units of account (EUA) and the first to include provisions for a Court of Auditors.

Parliament's general rapporteur on the 1978 budget, Mr Michael Shaw (Br, EC), echoed many of the Commissioner's points, stressing particularly that the size of the EC budget was too small to influence EC fiscal policy as a whole. Indeed, he said, even EC agricultural spending, which accounted for almost three-quarters of the budget, was small in comparison with what Member States spent.

But he was sceptical that agricultural spending would really represent a smaller share of the budget than in 1977 — these were the estimates, but by the time the budget was finalized, and after next year's farm price review, the proportion would probably be higher.

Echoing what speakers had said in Tuesday's debate on draft supplementary budget No 1, Mr Shaw stressed that an effort should be made to avoid a supplementary budget next year.

British Socialist Lord Bruce of Donington pointed out that the total EC budget is less than that of an average multinational company. There was a tendency to leave budgetary matters to a limited circle of experts, he said, whereas the budget was the responsibility of the Parliament and every Member should take an interest. Moving on to details, he said increases in the regional fund were long overdue. His group would also like to see funds allocated to projects which could not be carried out by one nation alone.

Mr Heinrich Aigner (Ge, CD) stressed that the own resources system could not operate until the VAT directive was put on national statute books. Because national coffers were almost empty, the Community should not put any additional burden on taxpayers. He urged Mr Shaw to do as his own group had done last year and contact the leaders of all groups to lay down priorities.

Danish Liberal Niels Anker Kofoed said that there was a lot of costly duplication within the EC to be avoided.

Mr Albert Liogier (Fr, EPD) pointed out that the financial regulation would increase the powers of Parliament. On regional policy, he said it had not been reviewed since the submission of the draft budget, so that it was difficult to see how allocations could be managed.

On behalf of the European Conservative Group, Lord Bessborough (Br) welcomed the introduction of the new unit of account replacing the old unit of account fixed to the dollar. He agreed that the EC should be better understood; so this budget, the last before direct elections, should be a dynamic one. He wished to see stronger regional and social funds and welcomed both the establishment of a Court of Auditors and also the fact that Parliament was to determine the percentage rate of VAT to be charged. He was opposed, however, to all forms of earmarking funds for specific items.

‘Those who earn most should pay most’, said Mr Altiero Spinelli (It, CA). He urged the House to study ways of devising new, fairer and more rational forms of taxation. The EC should avoid giving the impression that money is being wasted.

Mr Michele Cifarelli (It, L) was openly critical of the amounts of money consumed by the CAP. ‘It is time’, he said, ‘that we did away with some of the taboos’ surrounding agricultural policy – and he returned to a proposal he had made in the past: set a ceiling on intervention payments. It was unlimited support that was at the root of the CAP’s absurdities.

Budgets Committee Chairman Ernest Lange (Ge, S) bemoaned – not for the first time – the number of empty chairs in the Chamber. But it did show, at any rate, what ‘unlimited confidence’ Members were willing to place in the few (mostly members of the Budgets Committee) who were present. At this point, Mr Pierre Giraud (Fr, S) interrupted to say it was hardly surprising that no-one was interested so long as Parliament could only change ‘0.1 per cent’ of the budget anyway.

But Mr Lange was insistent on the need for Parliament to look after its newly acquired budgetary rights. On the draft estimates themselves, he thought that the key element was payment appropriations – the money that would actually be spent during the budgetary year. He also spoke of the confusion that would reign – given the introduction of own resources from VAT contributions – if a supplementary budget were presented next year.

Rapporteur Michael Shaw (Br, EC) said it had been a good debate. But he stressed that the Budget belonged to the Parliament as a whole, not just to the budgets committee. ‘We need advice, and we want advice’.

In a brief reply, Commissioner Christopher Tugendhat pointed out to Heinrich Aigner (Ge, CD) that the amounts earmarked for monetary compensatory

amounts (1,159m EUA — 763m pounds) were a great deal less than planned spending in the dairy or the cereals sectors.

### **Special provisions amending the Financial Regulation**

The Commission is proposing to modify the wording in several articles of the Financial Regulation to achieve greater clarity. Rapporteur on behalf of the Budgets Committee, Michael Shaw (Br, EC) said he found the amendments acceptable.

A motion to this effect was agreed to.

### **Discharge not given in respect of 1975 budget**

Parliament today declined to give the Commission a discharge in respect of the implementation of the 1975 budget. Parliament's position is summed up on page 50 of Document 165/77 (PE 49.028/fin.): 'The fragmentary information so far supplied to Parliament does not yet permit it to give a discharge to the Management Board as provided in the financial provisions'. A motion to this effect was agreed.

### **EC staff salaries and allowances to be calculated in EUA not Belgian francs in future**

Parliament today endorsed a Commission proposal that EC staff be paid in the equivalent of European Units of Account and not Belgian francs in future. Mr Shaw (Br, EC) and Mr Altiero Spinelli (It, CA) expressed concern about the 'weighting' proposed but Commissioner Tugendhat assured the House that its aim was to give comparable purchasing power to all staff in comparable posts wherever they worked in the Community. He pointed out that the cost of living in Belgium and Luxembourg is twice as high as in the United Kingdom. This was something that critics of Community pay rates ought to bear in mind.

### **Consultations about power station sites not enough. British lift reservation about Joint Research Programme**

Parliament today expressed concern about a Commission proposal whereby Member States will have to consult each other before building power stations in

areas near to internal EC borders. German Christian Democrat Werner Zeyer (for Hanna Walz) argued that this is simply not going far enough. What the Commission is proposing is that Member States give notice of their construction plans so that a panel of experts can advise as to whether other Member States are likely to be affected. Why, asked Mr Zeyer, does not the Commission institute a proper arbitration procedure? And why not bring in the countries on the Community's borders if they are likely to be affected? A motion summing up this concern was agreed to.

In a brief intervention in mid-debate Energy Commissioner Guido Brunner surprised – and evidently delighted – the House by announcing that the British Government had just lifted its reservations on funding the four-year research programme in Ispra. It was on this point that former Council President John Tomlinson had been accused of 'blackmail' when, during Parliament's June sittings, he had suggested that Britain's reservations were linked to a 'satisfactory' solution to the siting of JET. As for the main issue – the siting of Power Stations – Mr Brunner said the Commission's aim was to make a start.

## **FRIDAY**

### **New lease for agreements with Malta and Cyprus**

On a motion put down by Jim Spicer, the European Parliament approved Commission proposals to extend the arrangements for trade with Malta and Cyprus beyond the date of expiry of the EC's Association Agreements (first stage) with them.

### **Agreements with Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia**

On a motion put down by Gabriel Kaspereit (Fr, EPD) the European Parliament approved Commission proposals on agreements with,

- the Arab Republic of Egypt
- the Hashemite Republic of Jordan
- the Syrian Arab Republic
- the Lebanese Republic
- the Kingdom of Morocco
- the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
- the Republic of Tunisia.

The proposals concern the safeguard measures provided for in the agreements with these countries.

### **Tomato concentrates**

When it comes to speculating, tomato concentrates do not have the glamour of Krugerrands or even copper futures: but the Commission has nevertheless had to introduce an emergency regulation (approved by Parliament on Friday July 6th) to protect Community tomato growers from 'speculative operations ... loopholes in Community regulations'. Until the end of the year, tomato concentrates can be brought into the UK, Ireland and Denmark from third countries more cheaply than into the other six Community states. So imports from the Three to the Six have been rocketing.

As Mark Hughes (Br, S) pointed out, however, it is not even as simple as that. The UK will be unable to switch from third country (e.g. Portuguese) suppliers to Community (e.g. Italian) suppliers, whatever the changed regulations, because of stringent public health rules (based on the Howard mould count). Even after the end of the year, the tomato situation would probably be one of the most sensitive issues of all in negotiations on Mediterranean trade.

### **Fifth farm fund report criticised**

Mr Francesco Albertini (It, S) had a number of criticisms about the Commission's fifth report on the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund. Mr Guido Brunner said the Commission accepted his suggestions, the main one being that financial reports 'must provide full and pertinent information'.

### **MCAs to be calculated on basis of prices lower than support prices for particular products**

On a motion from Erwin Lange (Ge, S) Parliament's report on a Commission proposal whereby monetary compensatory amounts (which make up the differences between market rates for currencies and the artificial rates used in setting farm prices) may in future be calculated on the basis of prices which are lower than the support prices for particular products was referred back to committee. (This principle is already in application in the beef and veal sector).

Mr Mark Hughes (Br, S) expressed concern at this reference back: it could adversely affect the chances of effective action in the fiscal sector.

### **Seeds proposal approved**

On a motion from Pierre Bourdellès (Fr, L) the European Parliament approved a Commission proposal on the marketing of beet seed, fodder plant seed, cereal seed, seed potatoes, material for the vegetative propagation of the vine, seed of oil and fibre plants, vegetable seed and on the common catalogue of varieties of agricultural plant species. The proposal in fact relates to details of packaging.

### **Agreements with Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia**

On a motion from Alain Terrenoire (Fr, EPD) Parliament called for amendments to a Commission proposal concerning agreements with Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia. Mr Terrenoire wished it made clear that it is the Commission alone which is empowered to implement the budget.

### **Lord Bruce challenges Commission on cost to Community of storing skimmed milk powder: cheaper to give it away as food aid, he says.**

Parliament's last debate this week was about the Community's food aid programme for 1977. At present, this stands at 105,000 tonnes of skimmed milk powder and 45,000 tonnes of butter oil. Dutch Socialist Jan Broeks put down a motion (spoken to by Cornelis Laban) approving the programme but urging that a further 45,000 tonnes of skimmed milk powder be included without delay. The hold-up, of course, is cash. The present programme is costing 40.22m ua (16.75m pounds) for the 105,000 tonnes of skimmed milk powder and 44.38m u.a. (18.45m pounds) for the 45,000 tonnes of butter oil. To add 45,000 tonnes more skimmed milk powder would cost 17.51m u.a. (17.29m pounds). This motion was agreed to.

Mr Laban was not entirely happy about the programme even so. He suggested that the demand for food aid was far greater than the amount supplied by the Community. He thought it particularly shocking that skimmed milk powder (which is now vitamin-enriched) should be fed to cattle. Why could not more aid be given and factories set up in the countries affected to enable them to

reconstitute milk powder into milk? Lord Bruce agreed. In his analysis, the cost to the Community of skimmed milk deterioration due to storage is 500m u.a. per annum (208m pounds). And this on top of storage costs.

It is, he suggested, considerably cheaper to give skimmed milk powder away than to keep it in warehouses. Commissioner Guido Brunner rejected his figures. One tonne of skimmed milk powder cost 930 u.a. (388 pounds) as food aid which was far more than the storage cost of 120 u.a. (50 pounds) per annum per tonne. The difference between the two figures of 810 u.a. (338 pounds) had to be paid for from somewhere. As for the volume of aid, he said that 150,000 tonnes was sufficient for 1977. There would be an increase in 1978 because of the increased need being felt in India. But, he stressed, the aim of aid was to help not to undermine the agricultural structures of the recipient states.

Lord Bruce gave notice that he intended to challenge the Commission's figures.

## **S u m m a r y o f t h e W e e k**

**Monday, 4th July – Friday, 8th July 1977**

(Document numbers in brackets)

### **Monday, 4th July**

- House gives unanimous approval to rules for a Financial Protocol providing aid for Malta. (doc. 101/77; 189/77)
- Channel tunnel: Parliament approves proposals on transport infrastructures which could provide cash for the Chunnel project. (doc. 244/76; 7/76; 185/77)
- Research plans for electronic traffic aids (COST project 30) endorsed. (doc. 39/77; 186/77)

### **Tuesday, 5th July**

- Parliament gives go-ahead to Davignon Plan for dealing with the crisis in the Community steel industry. (doc. 489/76; 198/77)



- Question Time: 14 questions to the Commission. (doc. 197/77)
- Dumping: question to the Commission about cut-price goods from abroad which threaten Community jobs and business (doc. 174/77; 209/77)
- House calls for better relations with China. (doc. 76/77)
- Parliament favours closer ties with Nordic countries (Norway, Sweden, Finland and Iceland). (doc. 184/77)
- Council's request for extra 291m pounds to be added to 1977 budget given grudging approval. (doc. 192/77; 202/77)

### **Wednesday, 6th July 1977**

- Question Time: 9 questions to the Council, 4 questions to the Foreign Ministers of the Nine Member States of the European Community meeting in political cooperation. (doc. 197/77)
- New Council President Henri Simonet and Commission President Roy Jenkins address House on 'state of the Community', followed by four-hour debate.
- President Henri Simonet stresses support for small firms in the Community. (doc. 175/77)
- European passport: still no agreement on details. (doc. 176/77)
- North-South dialogue: Commissioner Claude Cheysson gives his views on outcome. (doc. 178/77)
- House agrees motion expressing satisfaction over Spanish elections. (doc. 208/77)
- Commissioner Finn Gundelach in favour of a one-to-two year ban on North Sea herring fishing. (doc. 210/77; 211/77; 216/77)

#### **Thursday, 7th July 1977**

- Budgets Commissioner Christopher Tugendhat presents the 1978 draft budget – which, at 8,232m pounds, is up 22 per cent on the 1977 budget.
- Special provisions amending the Financial Regulation. (doc. 87/77; 168/77)
- Discharge not given in respect of 1975 budget. (doc. 523/76; 97/77; 19/76; 165/77)
- EC staff salaries and allowances to be calculated in EUA not Belgian francs in future. (doc. 65/77; 218/77)
- Consultations about power station sites not enough. British lift reservation about Joint Research Programme. (doc. 506/76; 145/77)

#### **Friday, 8th July 1977**

- New lease for agreements with Malta and Cyprus. (doc. 151/77, 206/77)
- Agreements with Egypt, Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia. (doc. 170/77; 201/77)
- Tomato concentrates. (doc. 205/77; 217/77)
- Fifth farm fund report criticized. (doc. 190/77)
- MCAs to be calculated on basis of prices lower than support prices for particular products. (doc. 141/77; 188/77)
- Seeds packaging proposal approved. (doc. 146/77; 203/77)
- Agreements with Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia. (doc. 81/77; 199/77)
- Lord Bruce challenges Commission on cost to Community of storing skimmed milk powder: cheaper to give it away as food aid, he says. (doc. 125/77; 191/77)

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