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PRESIDENT JENKINS REAFFIRMS TIMETABLE ON GREEK ENTRY TO COMMUNITY

European Community Commission President Roy Jenkins, at the conclusion of his two-day visit to Greece last week, stated once again the Community's assurance that Greece should become a full member of the European Community. Expectations are that this will occur no later than 1981 -- after Greece and current EC member parliaments have ratified the accession treaty.

President Jenkins said at his press conference Friday in Athens that he had not come to Greece to negotiate its entry, but "to learn more of Greek attitudes and positions from those who will be particularly responsible for your country's future as a member of the European Community."

President Jenkins' statement continued:

"My talks concentrated on the current negotiations in Brussels and on the future on the Community after Greece becomes a member. I am glad to say that the negotiations are proceeding according to the timetable which Mr. Karamanlis and I discussed during his visit to Brussels at the beginning of the year. I am equally glad to be able to say that the Prime Minister and I believe that the timetable we foresaw remains realizable and can be kept to. We still have broadly the same dates in mind. In other words, it should be possible to conclude the negotiations on all the major issues by the end of this year, by Christmas. This is what I have called 'breaking the back' of the negotiations. There may be a few small questions left to be settled in the early months of 1979.

I did not conceal from my hosts, nor do I conceal from you, that November and December are likely to be difficult months as the negotiations reach a climax, and flexibility will be required from Greece and from the member states in order to achieve our timetable. I can well understand and sympathize with the Greek wish that her entry and her full integration into the Community should not be unduly delayed, and I stress in this context that whatever the length of the transitional period of periods in different sectors, Greece will be a full member with full political rights from the moment of her accession to the Community.

Finally, I should like to repeat, as I repeated to my hosts, the Commission's commitment to the success of the negotiations and our welcome for the prospect of enlargement of the Community. I have been encouraged in this context by the support of the Greek government for the strengthening of the Community and their interest in the proposed European monetary system. This, I believe, will come into operation at the beginning of next year and will represent a most significant advance. We are on the threshold of a new period in the life of the Community, and I look forward to Greece as its tenth member playing its full part in these developments."

The Commission president said that his talks during his visit in Greece were with Prime Minister Constantine Karamanlis, President Constantine Tsatsos, other government officials and a wide range of representatives of Greek business and industrial life.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS -- OCTOBER, 1978

(All events are in Luxembourg unless otherwise noted)

October	9 - 10	Council of Justice Ministers
October	9 - 13	European Parliament (Strasbourg)
October	10	Council on Development
October	16	Council on Finance
October	17	Council on Foreign Affairs
October	23 - 25	European Parliament
October	30	Council on Energy
October	30 - 31	Council on Agriculture