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COMMON MARKET • EURATOM • COAL & STEEL COMMUNITY

COMMON MARKET COMMISSION CALLS U. S. TRADE EXPANSION ACT

'MAJOR STEP TOWARD A NEW ERA'

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WASHINGTON, D. C., October 12 -- The Commission of the European Economic Community issued the following statement after President Kennedy signed the Trade Expansion Act:

"The Commission of the European Economic Community salutes the signing of the Trade Expansion Act by President Kennedy as a major step toward a new era in international economic affairs. By his act, and with the support of the American Congress and people, the President has pledged his country to a far-reaching liberalization of free-world trade. He has proclaimed the readiness of the United States to undertake this program in partnership with the nations of the European Community for the benefit of all free nations.

"The Atlantic partnership can now move forward from conception to accomplishment. The means are at hand for an enlargement of exchanges of goods by a general reduction of tariffs accompanied by the adoption of rules of fair play. Such a stimulation of trade undertaken in terms of reciprocal advantage to both partners will also produce throughout the free world, as it has in the European Community, new economic strength and vigor. Inevitably, the new enterprise of partnership will also intensify Atlantic cooperation as the separation of national economies diminishes. These and other benefits undoubtedly to be discovered on the new path of partnership confirm the historic importance of President Kennedy's action in behalf of his country and the free world."