

# EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

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### COMMON MARKET CUSTOMS COMMITTEE

#### HOLDS FIRST MEETING

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 11, 1962 -- A further step toward European unity was made last week as the Customs Committee of the European Economic Community held its first meeting in Brussels.

(The Committee is composed of the heads of the customs departments of Belgium, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands).

Results of the meeting, announced today in Brussels:

- . The Committee affirmed that the next cut in customs duties, scheduled for July 1, would be made on schedule, despite heavy work loads for the various customs departments. (The cut will bring to 50 per cent the reductions in tariffs among the Six since January 1, 1959.)
- . The Committee proposed to EEC authorities that exceptional duty-free entries be allowed within the European Community during periods of disaster, such as the recent North German floods.
- . The Committee discussed ways of securing in the Common Market a uniform application of the common external tariff. This is to be discussed further.
- . The Committee discussed ways to cut red tape for goods crossing frontiers by railway.

Giuseppe Caron, vice president of the EEC Commission, was chairman of the meeting.