

# EUROPEAN COMMUNITY INFORMATION SERVICE

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## CHATENET REPLACES HIRSCH

### AS PRESIDENT OF EURATOM

WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 11 -- Pierre Chatenet became the third President of the Commission of the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) at a ceremony in Brussels yesterday. He succeeds Etienne Hirsch, who has been President of the six-nation Community institution since February 2, 1959.

M. Chatenet, who is 44 years old, was formerly Secretary of State in the cabinet of French Premier Michel Debré and Minister of the Interior between May, 1959 and May 1961. The first President of Euratom, Louis Armand, who headed the Commission at the time of its establishment in January 1958, was also a Frenchman.

### Rusk and Hirsch Exchange Cables

Secretary of State Dean Rusk sent the following cable to President Hirsch through the Chief of the U.S. Mission to the European Community, Ambassador W. Walton Butterworth:

"Before you pass on the responsibilities you have discharged with distinction over the past three years, I wish you to know how much your firm and wise leadership of Euratom has been appreciated on this side of the Atlantic.

"United States-Euratom relations have known periods of frustration, and it is in large measure due to your statesmanship that we now have a meaningful joint program and broadening cooperation in important fields of research. I am pleased that the expanded new agreement for cooperation now being negotiated has taken shape during your term of office. As you leave Euratom, you have the satisfaction of knowing that your efforts have brought nearer a goal we share -- true Atlantic partnership between the United States and a united Europe. I assure you that we in the United States will continue to work toward this goal.

"Chairman Seaborg joins with me in these thoughts and in wishing you success and good health in your future endeavors."

On relinquishing his duties in Brussels, President Hirsch sent the following cable to Secretary Rusk:

"I am most sensible to the very thoughtful message you sent me on January 8 on the occasion of my leaving my function as President of Euratom.

"During these years, in spite of all difficulties, we have worked together on both sides of the Atlantic toward the same goals, and I would like to thank you, Mr. Secretary, as well as Chairman Seaborg for your understanding of our problems and your contribution to their solution. Solid foundations have thus been laid for the development of our relationship on a realistic basis, and it is my firm conviction that Euratom has now reached a stage where it will increasingly contribute to the success of both our joint program and our broadening cooperation. I am quite confident that during the term of office of my successor Euratom will continue to strengthen its contribution to the construction of a united Europe and to the development of a true partnership with the United States."