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**BENSON FINDS "BETTER UNDERSTANDING"  
IN TALKS WITH COMMON MARKET OFFICIALS**

WASHINGTON, D.C., August 2 -- Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson concluded a two-day round of talks in Brussels today with European Economic Community officials on the possible effects upon the U. S. of the Common Market's proposed common agriculture policy.

Sicco L. Mansholt, Vice President of the Common Market's executive branch and architect of its agriculture policy, was the chief spokesman for the Community's plan to provide for a single agricultural market among the six member nations of the EEC.

Secretary Benson said that the meetings had been fruitful -- providing him with a "better understanding" of the difficulties faced in drafting a single policy for European agriculture. He added that they also provided him with the opportunity of explaining U. S. views on the subject.

The Secretary earlier had voiced concern over a Community plan for support payments to farmers. During the discussions, he learned that these were to be adjustment payments which would be effective for a limited transition period and on a declining basis in order to aid European farmers in shifting to more productive regions or to better production techniques.

Vice President Mansholt stressed the Community's continuing needs to import cereals and its hopes to export animal products. He underscored the liberal trade views of the Commission of the Common Market and emphasized that the common agriculture policy would, in the case of some member countries, be an important move away from state trading and in the direction of free trade. He declared that the Community's import policy for agricultural goods would be considerably freer than policies now existing in most member states.

Mr. Mansholt told Secretary Benson that an essential condition for the operation of a liberal trade policy in agriculture would be in decreasing the high price level for cereals now existing in certain member countries. He added that the Commission has already made proposals to the Community's Council of Ministers to take action in this direction.