

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
Information Service
235 Southern Building
Washington 5, D. C.

THE VISIT OF PRESIDENT HIRSCH TO THE UNITED STATES

June 11-17, 1961

Etienne Hirsch, President of the Commission of the European Atomic Energy Community, visited Washington, D. C., from June 11 to June 17 at the invitation of Glenn T. Seaborg, Chairman of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission. The purpose of the visit was to review for the new members of the AEC Commission the progress and development that Euratom has achieved over its first three and one-half years of existence and to examine areas of U. S.-Euratom cooperation in various fields relating to the peaceful application of nuclear energy.

The Official Side of the Visit

In addition to meeting with the Chairman and the other Commissioners of the AEC, President Hirsch held discussions with Dean Rusk, Secretary of State; George Ball, Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs; Jerome Wiesner, Special Assistant to President Kennedy for Scientific Affairs; Harold F. Linder, President and Chairman of the Export-Import Bank; and Congressman Chet Holifield of California, Chairman of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy. He met with various members of the Committee, including Senator John O. Pastore of Rhode Island, Vice Chairman; Senator Bourke B. Hickenlooper of Iowa; and James T. Ramey, Executive Director.

Ambassador W. Walton Butterworth, U. S. Representative to the European Communities, participated in several of the official meetings. Accompanying President Hirsch were Jules Guéron, Director General of the Division of Research and Training; Federico Consolo, Special Counselor to the Commission; and Curt Heidenreich, Counselor in Euratom's Division of Foreign Relations.

Detailed discussions were held daily in the AEC's Washington headquarters. The participants covered a wide range of matters including future cooperation in the field of nuclear research, the effect of the AEC's recent price reduction for enriched uranium on the conditions for supply of nuclear fuel to Euratom, and the issuance of the invitation for power reactors to be built in the Community under the 1965 phase of the U. S.-Euratom joint power program.

Other Activities

President Hirsch held a luncheon meeting with a select group of atomic-energy journalists on June 15 during which he gave the reporters background information on Euratom developments and plans. The President explained the status of the power program, the development of the research program, plans for the European University in Florence, and various aspects and problems of the U. S.-Euratom program.

The President met with Ambassadors from the six member countries and on June 16 held a special briefing for the scientific counselors of the six embassies. He was entertained at dinner by AEC Chairman Seaborg. On June 15 he addressed government and industry representatives at a dinner sponsored by the Atomic Industrial Forum.

The trip marked President Hirsch's first visit to the United States since November 1959 when he delivered the major address at the annual joint convention of the Atomic Industrial Forum and the American Nuclear Society in Washington, D. C.