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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

EUROPEAN EXPERTS DISCUSS PRESERVING FOOD BY RADIATION

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 3 -- Experts from the six European Common Market countries met in Brussels near the end of February to review the use of irradiation in preserving foods and decided the time is ripe to move toward industrial application.

In this regard the group, which met on the initiative of Euratom's Euroisotope Bureau, recommended that pilot plants incorporating radio-preservation are possible right now. They felt further that recommendations should be drawn up to the six member states of Euratom concerning the consumption of irradiated foodstuffs.

Finally Euratom was urged to promote the necessary research and development to help realize the technique in Community industries; in view of this, the group felt that Euroisotope's informational and promotional activities such as the demonstration tour of IRMA, the world's largest irradiator, should be expanded.

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