

# THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

P R E S S R E L E A S E

EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY • EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY • EUROPEAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMUNITY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## EURATOM TEST REACTOR GOES CRITICAL

WASHINGTON, D.C., March 23--The European Atomic Energy Community Commission has announced that the ESSOR reactor, built at the Community's nuclear research center in Ispra, Italy, went critical shortly after 10 p.m. Sunday night.

ESSOR (ESSai ORgel) is the test reactor for the Community's joint ORGEL project and is to test fuel elements, liquid pump coolants and instruments under conditions approximating those of a large, advanced power reactor of the ORGEL type--an organic cooled, heavy-water modified reactor. A number of Community firms from several countries participated in the construction of the test reactor.

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