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# PRESS RELEASE

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No. 22

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 25, 1972

## HOUSE LEADERS TO MEET MEMBERS OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 25 -- A series of meetings between Congressional leaders and members of the European Parliament will take place in the Rayburn House Office Building here next week, starting Monday, May 29.

The talks will range over a broad selection of subjects affecting US-European relations, including the European Community's trade and agriculture policies, security, and the role of the US and European legislatures in fostering closer US-Europe links.

The delegation from the EC legislature, led by a vice-president, Dutch Senator Wilhelmus Schuijt, arrives over the weekend for discussions with members of five House committees. It will be the first visit by an EC delegation to the Congress.

Representative Benjamin S. Rosenthal (D-L., N.Y.) has said the talks should set a pattern for regular, informal EC-US meetings, especially after Britain, Ireland, Norway, and Denmark join the six-member Community next year, giving it ten members and a larger population than America's.

Mr. Rosenthal, chairman of the Sub-Committee on Europe, who is co-host for the visit with Representative Donald M. Fraser (D., Minn.), said: "The United States Government, including the Congress, must start taking account of the political growth of the European countries of the Common

Market."

Mr. Schuijt's group is reciprocating a visit to Luxembourg in January, made by members of the House Sub-Committee on Europe and on International Organizations and Movements, led by Mr. Rosenthal and Mr. Fraser. They issued a report in March stressing the Community's striking political growth. Members of the House Ways and Means Committee also visited EC headquarters in Brussels in January.

The European visitors will have six closed sessions, Tuesday and Wednesday, with the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, with members of the Agriculture, Appropriations, Banking and Currency, and Ways and Means Committees also present. On Wednesday, there will be an open plenary session.

On Wednesday and Thursday, the European delegation will also meet State Department, Cabinet and White House officials, including Agriculture Secretary Earl L. Butz, Commerce Secretary Peter G. Peterson, Treasury Secretary designate Charles Schultz, and Herbert Stein, chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers. Talks will cover security, trade and monetary reform, and agriculture.

Tuesday morning's initial session in the Rayburn Building will be held under the title: "After Moscow, Before Helsinki: Political-Security Relations of a Unified Europe and Their Effects on Existing US-European Groupings." The mention of Helsinki refers to the Strategic Arms Limitations Talks (SALT); the main existing US-European grouping on security is the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

The European delegation will be composed of:

- Christian Democrats: Wilhelmus Schuijt (Netherlands), Linus Memmel and Hans Richarts (Germany), Giovanni Boano (Italy), and Maurice Dewulf (Belgium)
- Socialists: Hendrikus Vredeling (Netherlands), Hans Lautenschlager and Erich Wolfram (Germany)

- Liberals: Charles Durand (France) and William Borm (Germany)
- Gaullists: Pierre-Bernard Couste and Christian de la Malene (France).

All are members of their countries' national legislatures as well as the European Parliament.

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