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PRESS RELEASE

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EUROPEAN COMMUNITY VICE PRESIDENT DISCUSSES INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES WITH US OFFICIALS

Washington, June 5 -- Carlo Scarascia Mugnozza, Vice President of the Commission of the European Communities, ended two and a half days of meetings today with US officials on international environmental and consumer issues confronting the United States and Europe.

The Commission Vice President, who is responsible for the Community's environmental and consumer affairs, met with administration officials of the White House, the State Department, the Environmental Protection Agency, and members of the Congress.

Scarascia Mugnozza stressed in his talks that the Community's own concern with protecting the European environment does not stop at the borders of the nine member countries but is international in scope. Therefore, he said, the Commission was concerned with maintaining close cooperation with the US Government to exchange information and help ensure that measures taken for European environmental protection benefit from the experience of the United States. He added that both sides were also interested in seeing that environmental steps do not hinder US - European trade.

In the course of his talks, Scarascia Mugnozza met with: Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, Arthur Hartman; John A. Busterud, member of the Council on Environmental Quality; Christian Herter, Jr., special assistant to the Secretary of State for Environmental Affairs; Russell E. Train, administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency; Virginia Knauer, special assistant to the President for Consumer Affairs, and with Senator Edmund Muskie, Senator Philip Hart, and Representative Benjamin Rosenthal.

Accompanying the Commission Vice President were: Michel Carpentier, Director of the Commission's Environment and Consumer Protection Service; Armando Toledano Laredo, executive assistant to Vice President Scarascia Mugnozza, and Ubaldo Zito, principal administrator of the Environment and Consumer Protection Service.