

No. 47/92
December 14, 1992

EC-US PRESIDENTIAL MEETING TO TAKE PLACE IN WASHINGTON

UK Prime Minister John Major, whose country currently holds the rotating EC Council Presidency, and EC Commission President Jacques Delors will meet President Bush at the White House on December 18.

The three leaders are expected to give top priority to developments in Europe, including the outcome of the Edinburgh European Council on December 11-12, the world economic and monetary situation, the Uruguay Round of trade talks, the EC-US economic relationship and the future of EC-US relations in general. They will also discuss the situation in Yugoslavia, the Soviet Union and the Middle East peace process.

The meeting is the second this year, and the third of the twice-yearly EC-US presidential meetings to take place in Washington since they were formalized in the Transatlantic Declaration of November 1990. In fulfillment of a similar Declaration signed with Canada also in November 1990, Prime Minister Major and President Delors will first fly to Ottawa for a meeting there with Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney on December 17.

Following the US-EC meeting, which will continue over lunch, the three leaders will make press statements at the White House.

At 2.35 pm on December 18, Prime Minister Major and President Delors will give a joint press conference in the Mount Vernon Room of the Sheraton Carlton Hotel, 923 16th & K Streets N.W., before departing Washington. Members of the press are invited to attend. Press credentials are necessary for entering the press conference.

John Major

John Major has been Prime Minister of the United Kingdom since November 1990 when he was appointed to lead the Conservative government after the resignation of former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. The government was reelected under his leadership in 1992.

Mr. Major has held several positions in Conservative governments under Margaret Thatcher, including Chancellor of the Exchequer (October 1989 - November 1990), Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Minister of Overseas Development (July - October 1989), Chief Secretary to the Treasury (June 1987 - July 1989), Minister of State for Social Security (1986 - 1987), Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Social Security (1985 - 1986), Lord Commissioner of the Treasury (1984), Assistant Government Whip (1983) and Private Secretary to the Minister of State at the Home Office (1981-1983). Mr. Major has been involved in national politics since 1979, when he was elected Member of Parliament for Huntingdonshire.

Before entering politics, Mr. Major was an executive with the Standard Chartered Bank from 1965 to 1979. He was born in 1943, is married and has a son and a daughter.

../..

Jacques Delors

Jacques Delors was first appointed President of the EC Commission in January 1985. Many of the instruments crucial to the 1992 program - the White Paper, the Single European Act, budgetary reform - were introduced during his first term. Based on this success, his mandate for a second term starting January 1989 was renewed at the Hanover European Council in 1988.

Before becoming President of the Commission, Delors served as Minister of Finance in the French Government from 1981 to 1984. A member of the Central Committee of the French Socialist Party, Delors was also Town Councillor, and later Mayor, of Clichy from 1983 to 1984. From 1979 to 1981, he was a Member of the European Parliament, where he was a Chairman of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, an area to which he has devoted much attention as President of the Commission. He held several positions with the Bank of France, including Member of the General Council from 1973 to 1979. He was also Secretary-General for the Interdepartmental Committee for Vocational Training and Social Advancement from 1969 to 1973.

Jacques Delors was born July 20, 1925. He is married to Marie Lephaille and has a daughter, Martine.

Press Contacts: EC Commission

Peter Doyle
(202) 862-9530

Ella Krucoff
(202) 862-9540

UK Embassy

Peter Bean
(202) 898-4343

Gareth Hoar
(202) 898-4283