# community BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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No. 1 /1973

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WASHINGTON, DC -- January 9, 1973 -- The 13-member Commission of the newly expanded European Communities will take the oath of office today before the Communities Court of Justice in Luxembourg.

On January 6, the Commission decided each of its members' special responsibilities at its first meeting, in Brussels on January 6 (see Annex 1).

The Commission is a collegial executive that administers the Communities' Treaties and proposes policy to the Council of Ministers, the Communities' decision-making body. Commission members are appointed unanimously by the governments of the nine member countries (Belgium, Britain, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands). Commission members are completely independent and cannot accept instructions from any national government. Before the entry of Britain, Denmark, and Ireland, the Commission had nine members.

The President and Vice Presidents of the Commission are appointed for two-year terms. Commission members are appointed for a term of four years. The Presidency alternates among the nine nationalities.

# Nixon Points to Common EC-US Tasks

Wishing the new Commission "every success," President Richard M. Nixon sent the following message to Commission President Francois-Xavier Ortoli: "On behalf of the United States, I am pleased to assure you, as you begin your new duties, of our continued interest in a constructive relationship with the Community. We face major common tasks and an unparalleled opportunity to build a more equitable and open international economic order. I am confident that, through close cooperation, our efforts will achieve success."

At the Commission meeting, President Ortoli paid tribute to predecessors on the Commission and called for the fulfilment of the goals set forth at the Paris "Summit" of the "Nine" last October. Among these goals is "European Union" by 1980.

"The enlargement of the Community means much more than a wider geographic limit," said Mr. Ortoli. "It means that the Community has a new dimension which will enable it, indeed require it, to accept enlarged responsibilities towards the peoples of our own countries and towards the rest of the world as well....We must make Europe a force in the world that is imbued with the spirit of peace, openness, and justice...."

<u>NOTE</u>: Photographs of Commission members can be obtained from the Information Service Bureau in Washington.

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# THE NEW COMMISSION

#### PRESIDENT

# Francois-Xavier Ortoli

Born in Ajaccio, Corsica, February 16, 1925, President Ortoli grew up in Indochina, where his father was a French Government official. In World War II, he fought with the Resistance. He was graduated from the French National School for Administration in Paris and was appointed a Finance Inspector. In 1969-72, Mr. Ortoli served in several French cabinet positions. He has been French Minister of Industrial and Scientific Development. In 1968, he became Minister for Economic Affairs and Finance and later served as Minister of Education after the Paris student riots. In 1966-67, Mr. Ortoli was director of France's five-year development plan. In 1958, he served in the Commission of the European Economic Community as Director General for Internal Market Affairs.

#### VICE PRESIDENTS

#### Wilhelm Haferkamp

Born in Duisburg, Germany, July 1, 1923, Vice President Haferkamp is responsible for economic and financial affairs and the Community's statistical office. Appointed to the Commission in July 1967, Mr. Haferkamp had special responsibility for the Community's energy policy, internal market, and approximation of legislation. In 1963-65, he was a member of the European Coal and Steel Community's Consultative Committee and a member of the Economic and Social Committee, which apprises the Commission and the Council of the views of labor, management, and consumers. He has held positions at the local and national level in the German Trade Union Federation.

# Patrick John Hillery

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Born in Miltown-Malbay, Ireland, May 2, 1923, Vice President Hillery is responsible for the Community's social policy. From July 1969 until joining the EC Commission, Mr. Hillery was Irish Foreign Minister. He led the Irish delegation in negotiations for entry into the Community and then played a leading role in the successful Irish referendum on EC membership. Earlier, he served as Minister for Labor (1966-69), Minister for Industry and Commerce (1965-66), and Minister for Education (1959-65). A one-time practicing physician, Mr. Hillery became a member of the Irish Parliament in 1951.

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#### Carlo Scarascia Mugnozza

Born in Rome, Italy, February 19, 1920, Vice President Scarascia Mugnozza is responsible for transport and environmental policies, protection of consumer interests, and public information activities. Together with President Ortoli, he also is responsible for relations with the European Parliament. Appointed to the Commission in March 1972, Mr. Scarascia Mugnozza was responsible for the common agricultural policy. As a member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies from 1963 until his appointment to the Commission, he sponsored numerous agricultural reform bills. In 1961, he became a member of the European Parliament, where he served as chairman of the Committee on Energy and Scientific Research and, later, as chairman of the Political Affairs Committee.

#### Henri Simonet

Born in Brussels, Belgium, May 10, 1931, Vice President Simonet is in charge of energy policy, nuclear safeguards, and harmonization of taxes, insurance,

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and banking laws and policies. Named Minister for Economic Affairs in 1972, Mr. Simonet has divided his time between the academic and political world. He has been a faculty member and an administrator at the Free University of Brussels. He has also served in the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Energy, in the office of Deputy Prime Minister with responsibility for Coordination of Economic Policy, and as mayor of Anderlecht. He has published several economic, financial, and political studies.

#### Christopher Soames

Born in Penn, United Kingdom, Vice President Soames is responsible for the Community's external trade relations. In 1968, the Labour Government appointed the Conservative Mr. Soames Ambassador to France, where he helped prepare the renewal of negotiations for the Communities' enlargement. He served as Ambassador until November 1972, when the Heath Government nominated him to the EC Commission. As Minister of Agriculture in the Macmillan Government, he was closely involved in the abortive 1961-63 negotiations for entry in the Communities. He began his political career in 1950 when he was elected to the British Parliament.

#### COMMISSIONERS

#### Albert Borschette

Born in Diekirch, Luxembourg, June 14, 1920, Commissioner Borschette is in charge of competition policy, personnel, and administration. He was first

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appointed to the Commission in 1970 after serving as a member of the Committee of Permanent Representatives from 1958 to 1970. During his first two years on the Commission, he had special responsibility for competition policy, regional policy, and information activities. As Deputy Chief of the Luxembourg delegation during 1956-57, he was involved in negotiations for the Rome Treaties creating the European Economic Community and the European Atomic Energy Community. Mr. Borschette served as a member of the Luxembourg Mission to the Allied Control Council in Berlin from 1949 to 1950.

# Ralf Dahrendorf

Born in Hamburg, Germany, May 1, 1929, Commissioner Dahrendorf is responsible for external relations on scientific matters, education policy, and the coordination of the Communities' research activities. From 1970 through 1972, Mr. Dahrendorf served as the Commissioner in charge of external trade relations. Mr. Dahrendorf was elected to the Bundestag in 1969 after serving one year in the Baden-Wurttemberg (state) Parliament. Before entering politics in 1968, he had followed an academic career in the field of sociology. In the United States, Mr. Dahrendorf has been a fellow at Stanford University's Center for Advanced Study in Behavioral Sciences, a visiting professor at Columbia University, and a visitor in Harvard University's Department of Government.

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#### Jean-Francois Deniau

Born in Paris, France, October 31, 1928, Commissioner Deniau is responsible for the Communities' budget and financial supervision and for development aid and cooperation. A member of the Commission since 1967, Mr. Deniau's responsibilities have included external relations, enlargement negotiations, and development aid. A member of the French delegation in the negotiations for the Common Market Treaty, Mr. Deniau became a member of the French Prime Minister's staff in 1957 and in 1963 became Assistant to the Director for External Economic Relations in the French Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs. In 1963 he was also appointed French Ambassador to Mauritania. Between his appointments in the French Government, Mr. Deniau worked for the Commission of the European Economic Community. From 1961 to 1963, he headed the Commission's delegation during negotiations with the United Kingdom.

# Finn Olav Gundelach

Born in Vejle, Denmark, April 23, 1925, Commissioner Gundelach oversees the internal market and customs union. As Danish Ambassador to the Communities from 1967 through 1972, Mr. Gundelach was instrumental in the negotiations for the accession of Denmark to the Communities. From 1959 to 1967, he was first Director, then Sub-Director General, then Deputy Director General of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade in Geneva. From 1955 to 1959 Mr. Gundelach served as Denmark's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva. From 1951 to 1955, in the Danish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, he was responsible for matters relating to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

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# Petrus Josephus Lardinois

Born in Noorbeek, the Netherlands, August 13, 1924, Commissioner Lardinois is in charge of the common agricultural policy. Mr. Lardinois was Dutch Minister for Agriculture and Fisheries from 1967 until his appointment to the Commission. Elected to the Dutch Second Chamber of the States General in 1963, Mr. Lardinois sat the same year in the European Parliament. An agricultural engineer by profession, Mr. Lardinois began his public career in 1952 as State Agricultural Advisor for East Brabant.

# Altiero Spinelli

Born in Rome, Italy, on August 31, 1907, Commissioner Spinelli is responsible for industrial and technological policy. Mr. Spinelli was first appointed to the Commission in July 1970, with responsibility for industrial, technological, and scientific affairs. Mr. Spinelli founded the European Federalist Movement in 1943 and took part in the Resistance after 10 years in Italian prisons and six years in exile for opposing Fascism. He has remained one of the most active proponents of the "European idea." He is a founder and director of the Institute for International Affairs of Rome.

# George Thomson

Born in Stirling, United Kingdom, January 16, 1921, Commissioner Thomson is responsible for regional policy. A member of the British Parliament since 1952, Mr. Thomson resigned from the "Shadow Government" in April 1972 in protest over Labour's decision to vote against Community membership. In 1966 and again in 1969, he was appointed Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster (Minister without Portfolio) with special responsibility for relations with the Communities. He led the Labour Government's negotiations for British entry into the Community in 1966-67. In 1964-67, he served twice as Minister of State in the Foreign Office.

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# Annex 2

# The Commission's January Calendar

- Jan. 9 The new Commission takes the oath of office before the Communities Court of Justice in Luxembourg.
- Jan. 10-11 The Commission meets in Brussels to appoint the directors general and division directors.
- Jan. 16-19 The Commission plans a meeting in Strasbourg, France, during the January 16-19 session of the European Parliament.
- Jan. 24-25 The Commission meets in Brussels to decide on its work program which will be presented to the European Parliament at its February 12-16 meeting in Luxembourg.

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