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October 20, 1971

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## TOP COMMON MARKET OFFICIALS ARRIVE FOR TWO DAY ROUND OF TRADE TALKS

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 20 -- Sicco Mansholt, Vice President of the Commission of the European Communities and fellow Commission member Ralf Dahrendorf arrived in Washington today for a two-day series of high level talks with the U.S. administration on vital trade matters.

The talks are expected to probe a wide range of problems, confronting U.S.-Community trade relationships, particularly as a result of the United States' "New Economic Policy." These discussions are part of regular twice-a-year exchanges between the U.S. and the Common Market Commission inaugurated in 1970.

Mr. Mansholt is the Commission member with chief responsibility for agricultural policy. Mr. Dahrendorf's major jurisdiction is trade policy and external affairs.

The Commissioners will hold day-long talks on Thursday and Friday with key Administration leaders at inter-agency meetings held at the State Department under the chairmanship of Deputy Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, Nathaniel Samuels.

U.S.-Common Market trade exchanges today account for some 38 per cent of world commerce with the Community importing \$2 billion more annually from the U.S. than it exports to the U.S. Subjects that may be covered include the various protectionist measures initiated by the new U.S. economic policy: the 10 per cent import surcharge; the seven per cent "Buy American" tax investment credit; and the proposal for creation of Domestic International Sales Corporations (DISC). The removal of trade barriers on both sides of the Atlantic, and the Community's preferential trade agreements and common agricultural policy are also likely to be discussed.

On Friday morning, the two Common Market Commissioners are to have a working breakfast with Peter G. Peterson, President Nixon's Special Assistant on Foreign Economic Policy, and then resume their discussions at the State Department. Following these talks, Messrs. Mansholt and Mr. Dahrendorf will hold a news conference at 11:30 A.M. in the Scandinavian

Room of the International Club.

Among those Common Market officials accompanying the two Commissioners are Theodorus Hijzen, acting Director-General for Trade Policy, Louis Georges Rabot, Director General for Agricultural Affairs; Renato Ruggiero, chief executive assistant to Commission President Franco Maria Malfatti; Fernand Braun, Deputy Director General for Industrial Affairs; and Paul Luyten, foreign trade specialist on affairs concerning the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The Commissioners will also be joined at several of the meetings by Ambassador Aldo Maria Mazio, newly appointed head of the first permanent Common Market delegation to the U.S.

Mssrs. Mansholt and Dahrendorf arrived at Dulles Airport this afternoon at 4:50 p.m. and will leave for Brussels on Friday at 7 p.m. from the same airport.

A brief schedule of the commissioners' activities during their two days in Washington is as follows:

Schedule for Messrs. Mansholt and Dahrendorf

Wednesday, October 20

4:50 p.m. Arrive Dulles Airport from Brussels.

Thursday, October 21

10 a.m. Discussions at State Department.

1 p.m. Luncheon given by Under Secretary of State Nathaniel Samuels at the National Academy of Sciences.

3 p.m.-5 p.m. Continuation of State Department meetings.

5 p.m.-8 p.m. Informal meeting with Secretary of State William Rogers.

8 p.m. Dinner given by Under Secretary of State Samuels in Secretary's private Dining Room, State Department.

Friday, October 22

7:30 a.m.-10 p.m. Breakfast with Peter Peterson, Special Foreign Economic Advisor to President, at White House.

10:15 a.m.-11:15 a.m. State Department meetings.

11:30 a.m. News Conference at Scandinavian Room, International Club, (1800 K Street, N.W.).

5:30 Depart Washington.

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