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community**

PRESS RELEASE

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY INFORMATION SERVICE

2100 M Street Northwest, Suite 707, Washington D.C. 20037 • Telephone: (202) 296-5131

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COMMON MARKET LAUDS HOUSE OF COMMONS VOTE

WASHINGTON, D.C., October 29 -- Following the momentous House of Commons decision yesterday approving British entry into the Common Market, Community officials acclaimed the importance of Britain's future role "in the modern history of European unity."

Franco Maria Malfatti, President of the European Community Commission, emphasized how helpful Great Britain's participation would be in seeking solutions to problems confronting the Community during its present delicate period.

"Britain's role, her economic and political force, her imagination, her courage and her democratic traditions can only strengthen the Community," Mr. Malfatti said.

The Commission, in an official communique, "heartily welcomed" the House of Commons vote, stating that the decision was in the best interests of all members of an enlarged Community, and that consequently, all of Europe would now be in a stronger position to play the role which is rightly hers in world affairs.

Although Parliament's vote yesterday signified approval of British participation in the Common Market, representatives of Great Britain and of the member states, plus the Council and the Commission must still sign the Treaties of Accession. The texts of the treaties are currently being

prepared in proper legal form, with the target date for signing, January 1, 1972. Then it remains for the British Parliament and the parliaments of the member countries to ratify the Treaties, which will come into force January 1, 1973.

To involve Britain and the other candidate countries (Denmark, Ireland, and Norway) in the Community's work during 1972, common procedures will be put into effect so that decisions made by Community institutions take into account the interests of the candidate countries, and consultations will take place before the adoption of any important decision.

Similarly, the candidate countries will hold prior consultations with the Six on any national decisions that affect their eventual obligations to the Community.

In the package agreement approved by British and Common Market negotiators last June, a transition period of five years, 1973-78, was agreed upon for Britain to align its economy gradually with the Community's. Also during the transition period, Britain's contribution to the annual budget will increase on a gradual basis. In 1973, Britain will pay 8.64 per cent of the budget, and by 1977, 18.92 per cent. These percentages are calculated to correspond to Britain's share of the gross national product of the ten countries likely to form the enlarged Community. In 1980, after an additional two-year adjustment period, the United Kingdom will have completely transferred to the Community's "own resources" system of financing. Thus, the United Kingdom will, with the other member countries of the Community, hand over all revenue from customs duties and farm import levies, as well as a percentage of the tax on value-added (TVA) revenue.