

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY NEWS

PUBLISHED FORTNIGHTLY

The contents of this newsletter may be quoted or reproduced without further permission.

COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

2100 M Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037 phone: (202) 296-5131
155 East 44th Street, New York, N.Y. 10017 phone: (212) MU-2-0458

JUNE 26, 1972 NO. 6

MANSHOLT'S THUNDERBOLTS

In an interview with Trente Jours d'Europe (Paris), EC Commission President Sicco L. Mansholt this month called for:

- * a common European currency by 1980
- * a reduction in per capita income to economize energy and raw materials
- * top priority for energy research, especially solar power
- * reurbanization, using less raw materials for building, and bringing workplaces and residences closer together
- * a substantial cut in the number of private cars in a decade's time
- * new tax laws to encourage and protect non-polluting and recycling industries and those producing more durable machines, vehicles and appliances.###



COMMUNITY LEADS IN HYDROGEN PRODUCTION

The European Community has "at least a two-year lead" over the US in the production of hydrogen from nuclear heat, says the EC publication Industry Research and Technology.###

BARRE REJECTS MANSHOLT VIEW

European Commission President Sicco L. Mansholt's proposals to limit economic growth for the sake of ecology have, not unexpectedly, ignited controversy. The latest rejoinder comes from a fellow Commissioner, Vice President Raymond Barre.

Barre said that pollution, depletion of natural resources, and overpopulation were manageable problems not requiring such drastic solutions as those proposed by President Mansholt. He pointed to seabed mineral resources, fast nuclear breeder reactors, and the "green revolution" in rice-growing as proof that the world could support a much larger population than at present. Uneven global distribution of population and resources is the real problem, according to Professor Barre.###



SLAUGHTER IN BURUNDI SHOCKS EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The European Parliament's Committee on African relations wants the Community and its member states to help resolve Burundi's internecine conflict which has claimed 100,000 lives, according to recent estimates. In a statement unanimously adopted early this month, the 18-member Committee expressed hopes that peace "would quickly be restored once and for all."

The Republic of Burundi is one of the 18 African countries associated with the Community by the Yaounde Convention.###

AID TO THIRD WORLD

The June 16 visit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) officials to Brussels was the latest in an increasing number of European Community contacts with economic groupings of "emerging" states.

Among the topics discussed between the ASEAN delegation and European Commissioner Ralf Dahrendorf were: economic diversification, markets for Asian products, general preferences, investments, gathering of information and statistics, and joint promotion of products. The head of the delegation, Indonesian Commerce Minister Sumitro Djojohadikoesoemo, said he had been "impressed by the genuine spirit of responsiveness we have encountered."

Attending the June 3 summit meeting of the West African Economic Community in Bamako, Mali was Jean-Francois Deniau, European Commissioner in charge of development aid. The member countries of the new organization -- Dahomey, Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Togo, and Upper Volta -- have expressed interest in receiving technical assistance from the Community.

In addition, the Community plans to send a team of experts to the Andean Group in South America to advise on regional development projects and industrial growth. The Andean Group consists of Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Peru, and Venezuela.###

PARLIAMENT BUDGET GROWS

In view of the expected enlargement of the Community to ten countries, the European Parliament adopted, June 4, a 69 per cent budget increase for 1973. The Parliament's total budget is now more than \$25.8 million, up from \$16.3 million.

EC GROWTH CONTINUES BUT SO DOES INFLATION

Inflation, not recession, is the major economic fear in the European Community these days.

A report issued by the Commission June 20 stated that last year's predictions of a major recession were unfounded but prices were climbing fast. On the positive side, the report said the Community's growth rate, now 3.5 per cent, could reach 5 per cent next year. In general, the study found an improved business climate and a stabilized employment picture in the Community.

BRITONS STILL DIVIDED ON MARKET

Enabling legislation for British entry into the Common Market squeaked through the House of Commons this month by a 296-to-288 vote. The eight-vote majority was provided by Liberals and Labour Party rebels allying with Prime Minister Heath's Conservative MP's. A Harris Poll found 50 per cent of British respondents believing they would be personally worse off for the first ten years of EC membership.###

COMMON MARKET GIVES TOURISTS A BREAK

After July 1 intra-Community travelers can cross national frontiers with up to \$135 worth of consumer goods duty-free. For travelers coming into the Community from outside countries, the duty-free allowance will be \$81 -- the same as the previous allowance for Community travelers. The directive approved by the Council of Ministers July 12 also provides for simplified and systematic border checks.###

DATELINE BABEL, BELGIUM

Although the Community's daily press briefings in Brussels are given exclusively in French, the written handouts are in the four EC languages and English. The ten-man Spokesman's office can brief questioners in eight tongues.

The polyglot atmosphere stems not only from the Community's multinational makeup but from the correspondents themselves. One hundred and ninety reporters from twenty-two countries, ranging from Czechoslovakia to Japan, now write from Brussels. The Community's expected enlargement to ten countries next January will no doubt add not only new newsmen but also more languages.

ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION TAKES OFF

The Community's machinery for economic and monetary union got a work-out this month when the Belgian, French, and German central banks supported the sagging pound sterling on foreign exchange markets. The Community central banks went to the aid of the pound in accordance with the members' decision to keep European currencies within a fluctuation margin of 2.25 per cent. (The International Monetary Fund margin is 4.5 per cent.)

As another step toward economic and monetary union, a new steering committee to coordinate short-term economic policy has been set up. The committee's members represent each of the ten member states of the enlarged Community.###

MILLIONS FOR SCIENCE

A \$390 million dollar scientific research and development (R & D) program is now being considered by the European Communities Council of Ministers. The program proposed by the Commission June 15 would include a European consultative committee on research and an autonomous European science foundation to foster coordination between scientists and to recommend Community financial participation in national research programs. The plan would shift the currently nuclear-oriented work of the Community's joint research center toward environmental, industrial and general studies.

TRADE PARTNERS MAY BECOME SPACE PARTNERS

European countries will decide next month whether or not to join the American space shuttle program.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) early this year invited Europe and Japan to take a 10 per cent share in the \$5.5 billion shuttle project and set a mid-July deadline for a reply. The last joint American-European space operation was in March when a European-made research satellite, Europe's most sophisticated to date, was launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.

The European space effort has been conducted both on a national level and through the European Launch Development Organization (ELDO) and the European Space Research Organization (ESRO). Although ELDO and ESRO are not connected with the European Community and include non-EC countries, a recent report prepared for the European Commission called for a Community-level space program. Without a coordinated space program, the report said, Europe loses technological spin-off and an important economic stimulus.



WORTH QUOTING

** We must, while building and creating European unity, keep in mind that such unity would be neither possible nor desirable without greater cooperation within the Western world as a whole, which includes our trans-Atlantic partners. -- QUEEN JULIANA of the Netherlands, State Visit to France, June 20.*



This material is filed with the Department of Justice where the required registration statement of the European Community Information Office, Washington, D.C. 20037, as an agent of the Commission of the European Communities, Brussels, is available for inspection. Registration does not indicate approval of this material by the United States Government

EUROPEAN COMMUNITY NEWS
2100 M Street NW Washington DC 20037

**FIRST CLASS
PERMIT NO.
44734
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

FIRST CLASS