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PRESIDENT JENKINS COMMENTS ON TOKYO SUMMIT

Statement at the joint press conference by Roy Jenkins, President of the Commission of the European Communities. Tokyo, June 29, 1979.

"Like the heads of state and government who have spoken before me, I am glad that we have been able to concentrate on the challenge of the energy crisis and agree on medium-term goals for oil imports as well as other measures in the energy field. I am pleased that the work done by the European Council at Strasbourg provided such a good foundation for and contribution to the results of this summit. We have, I believe, prepared ourselves to cope with the problems caused for us by scarce and expensive oil. We have done so without forgetting the impact on the developing countries, and we have done so in the knowledge that we must follow our words with action if we are to succeed."

He then gave his own press briefing.

"As you will have gathered, this although successful has not been an altogether easy summit. But this is not surprising since the problems with which we are faced are serious and difficult, and cannot be solved all at once or simply by a conference such as this. I believe, however, that we have made significant progress.

The European Community put its own house in order at the European Council in Strasbourg last week. As we said at the time, it would only be possible to maintain the commitments we undertook if the other major industrial countries made comparable effort. This I believe Canada, Japan and the United States have done in their undertakings here, and I am very pleased that the work we did at Strasbourg provided such a good basis for our contribution to the output of this meeting.

#### STEPS TAKEN AT SUMMIT

The combination of steps on which we have decided amounts to more than the sum of its parts. I would like to pick out in particular the following points:

1. We have all adopted specific targets for 1979, 1980 and 1985. This is particularly significant for the United States which will be stabilizing its oil imports for 1980 and committing itself to a new goal for 1985. This is valuable for the industrial world as a whole.

2. We shall be encouraging the other industrial countries to set similar targets. This should have a snowball effect.

3. We will be seeking greater transparency in oil transactions by a number of means. Notably by extending the Community proposal for a register of international transactions.

4. We agreed on the importance of keeping domestic oil prices at the world market level or raising them to that level as soon as possible.

5. We will develop the use of coal and the summit, like the European Community, recognized the essential role of nuclear power, under conditions which guarantee people's safety.

For their part the Community countries here have been prepared to be more specific than in Strasbourg, but their goals fall within the Strasbourg agreement and do not prejudice the positions of the other five Community countries.

We have also in the communique recognized the particular problems of the developing countries, and the need to do better, to increase the flow of financial resources, both public and private, and assistance over food.

What will count as much as the commitments we have undertaken is the intention to monitor closely our own efforts. For this reason it is good that these summits have now become more or less institutionalized as annual events, for the continuing problems of energy are bound to go on dominating them. We must use them to intensify our efforts to bring oil supply and demand more into balance, in our own interest. Otherwise we shall be adding self-inflicted wounds to those we are already suffering."

## THE OTHER EC COUNTRIES

He welcomed the fact that the communique did not prejudice the position of the five non-participating EC countries because they had all accepted the Strasbourg target, and the Tokyo agreement in no way committed them further. The four countries represented in Tokyo had simply accepted a more stringent position for themselves. Mr. Jenkins said he would be in touch with the five prime ministers concerned by telephone over the weekend. There had always been a clear idea of individual country targets within the Strasbourg framework. The Energy Council and then the Dublin European Council would now seek to break the Strasbourg figure down into national figures.

Asked about the position of North Sea oil, he said the Community would not wish to use any extra elbow room which this gave, because the object was to save, not use, oil.

Mr. Jenkins said he believed that the results of Tokyo would strengthen the hand of the Community representatives who would be meeting Sheikh Yamani, and of those oil producers who wanted to pursue a moderate policy.

