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E.C. ACTS TO FACILITATE WINE TRADE WITH THE U.S.

The Commission of the European Communities has adopted two measures aimed at facilitating wine trade between the United States and the European Community.

The Commission has proposed to the E.C. Council of Ministers a regulation that would implement agreements outlined in an exchange of letters in July 1983. This exchange constituted an understanding between the Commission and the U.S. government on the harmonization of domestic regulations concerning wine making practices. The Commission is convinced that the best way for developing mutual trade in the wine sector between the two parties under satisfactory conditions is to implement expeditiously the exchange of letters.

Secondly, the Commission decided to reduce to zero compensatory charges levied on E.C. imports of bottled wine from the U.S.

The Commission believes that these decisions will help those who are resisting protectionist pressures on both sides of the Atlantic so trade can continue to be developed on a mutually beneficial basis.