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Press release

Conferment of a decoration on Mr. Wolfgang Ernst, Head of the Delegation to Japan of the Commission of the European Communities (E.C.).

1. Mr. Wolfgang Ernst, Head of the Delegation to Japan of the Commission of the European Communities, called on Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda on the morning of October 6 to bid farewell on leaving his post (scheduled for October 7). On that occasion, he was conferred through the Foreign Minister the first class order of the sacred treasure.
2. Mr. Ernst assumed the post of Director for Trade policy, external relations directorate of the Commission of the European Communities when the European Economic Community was established in 1958, and has since consistently worked for the development of relations between Japan and E.C. as the person directly responsible for the E.C.'s trade policy toward Japan until 1974 and thereafter as the representative of the Commission in Japan.
3. The decoration was conferred on Mr. Ernst at the time of his departure in recognition by Japan of the meritorious service rendered by him toward the development of economic and trade relations between Japan and the E.C. over a long period of 20 years since the establishment of E.E.C.