

November 10, 1983

A WEEKLY SUMMARY OF PAST AND FUTURE EVENTS

Next Council Meetings

Brussels	November 14-15	Agriculture
	November 15	Development
	November 22	Budget
	November 25	Internal Market
	November 28	Environment
	November 28-29	Foreign Affairs

Other Events

Agriculture ministers (informal meeting):	Nov 28	(Delphi)
Political Cooperation:	Nov 22	(Brussels)
European Parliament:	Nov 14-18	(Strasbourg)
Economic & Social Committee Plenary Session:	Nov 22-24	(Brussels)

Provisional Dates Further Ahead:

Energy Council:	Dec 2	
Fisheries Council:	Dec 5	
Social Affairs Council:	Dec 8	
Consumer Affairs Council:	Dec 12	
Finance Council:	Dec 12	
Agriculture Council:	Dec 12-13	
Research Council:	Dec 13	
Foreign Affairs Council:	Dec 19-20	
Transport Council:	Dec 20	
European Parliament:	Dec 12-16	(Strasbourg)
European Council (summit):	Dec 5-6	(Athens)

THE WEEK AHEAD

A meeting of agriculture ministers on Monday and Tuesday will deal with the question of New Zealand butter imports, Commission proposals on the mutton and lamb market, proposals to extend the less favoured areas in the United Kingdom, Italy and the Netherlands and other technical matters. A one-day meeting of the Development Council, on Tuesday, will be discussing ideas for encouraging food production in developing countries and will be looking at the Community's food aid programme.

The European Parliament is expected to debate Cruise, Pershing and the Geneva arms limitation talks on Tuesday morning. In the afternoon a debate begins on the report by David Curry on the Commission proposals for adjustment of the common agricultural policy.

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European Council: Athens December 5 and 6 - accreditation

Journalists and technical staff wishing accreditation for the European Council should apply by November 25 to the following address:

Zappeion Hall Press Centre,
P.C. 105.57 Athens
Greece
Telex No: 223420 EOK GR

Anyone wishing to attend the Council should give name, date of birth, nationality, permanent and professional addresses, passport number, the medium represented and the profession of the applicant. Passes will be issued on arrival in Athens.

FLASHBACK

THE COMMUNITY BUDGET: Prior to the Athens summit conference the European Commission has suggested a new method of calculating the net contribution of member states to the European budget. This involves a redistribution of agricultural benefits proportionally to agricultural production in the various countries concerned. Its effect would be to diminish the estimate of the British net contribution and, hence, of the rebates claimed by the British government (e.g. in 1982 the British net contribution would work out at less than half of the £1.2 bn which is the estimate under the present system). The two British commissioners, Vice-President Tugendhat and Mr Ivor Richard, have dissociated themselves from this proposal. At a special council of Foreign and Finance ministers in Athens Sir Geoffrey Howe is reported to have described the proposal as 'lamentable' and to have said that, unless Britain's budgetary requirements were met, it would block proposed Community reforms, including any increase in budgetary resources.

THE ATHENS SUMMIT: The Greek presidency of the Council has suggested that Portuguese and Spanish entry and an increase in the Community's resources should come into operation on January 1, 1986.

EUROPEAN MONETARY SYSTEM: The conference of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) has voted against Britain's entry into the European Monetary System (EMS).

STEEL: The Commission has taken measures against Spanish steel imports. It has placed a provisional anti-dumping duty on concrete reinforcing bars and started an anti-dumping investigation.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS: The European Court has declared that British legislation dealing with discrimination against women is insufficient.

WORKERS' PARTICIPATION: A government consultative paper criticises the Commission's proposals on workers' participation in industry. It says the effects of the directives in Britain would be particularly damaging because of their inappropriateness to the general structure of industrial relations in this country.
