

A WEEKLY SUMMARY OF PAST AND FUTURE EVENTS

Next Council Meetings

Brussels	November 22	Budget
	November 25	Internal Market
	November 28	Special Council
	November 28	Environment
	November 29	Foreign Affairs

Other Events

Political Cooperation:	Nov 22	(Brussels)
Standing Committee on Employment:	Nov 22	(Brussels)
Culture Ministers (informal meeting):	Nov 28	(Delphi)
Economic & Social Committee Plenary Session:	Nov 22-24	(Brussels)

Provisional Dates Further Ahead:

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 4-6	(Athens)

THE WEEK AHEAD

A Council of Ministers meeting dealing with budget questions will make their second reading of the 1984 budget on Tuesday in Brussels. The internal market Council will be held on Friday with the aim of reaching further agreement on eliminating barriers to trade within the Community. The Standing Committee on Employment, meeting at ministerial level on Tuesday, will be considering aspects of employment policy of importance to women in particular.

A dossier will be available shortly on the issues to be decided at the Athens European Council. You will be given further details in due course.

FLASHBACK

THE COMMUNITY BUDGET: Ministers made little progress at last week's special council in resolving differences on the re-structuring of the Community budget. Among the various plans on the table that of the Greek presidency attracted attention. This would calculate Britain's rebate on its budgetary contribution in terms of the difference between its share of the Community's gross domestic product (GDP) and its share of Community expenditure. At the end of the council

meeting it seemed to be felt that a solution to the incidence of contributions might be based on this. In the House of Commons the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, said that the British attitude remained unchanged: no rise in Community resources without a fairer budgetary system and effective control of the costs of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). Speaking in Brussels, the President of the Commission, Mr Gaston Thorn, said that time was beginning to run short, but success could still be achieved at the European Council. Another 'special council' is to be held on November 28.

STEEL: The Commission has announced emergency minimum prices for about 40 per cent of the Community's steel output. This has been done to prevent a collapse of prices, following the widespread granting of discounts and other practices to evade Community price guidelines.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: The European Parliament has voted in favour of the installation of Cruise and Pershing missiles in Western Europe.

SOCIALISTS AND EUROPE: Robin Cook, the new Labour spokesman on European affairs, speaking at Strasbourg has called for a joint campaign by EEC Socialist parties for the European elections. Mr Cook also demanded "an economic programme capable of lifting the Community out of recession."

CYPRUS: The European Community has announced its disapproval of the declaration of independence made by the Turkish Cypriot community.

JAPAN: Japan and the European Community have failed to reach agreement on the restriction of exports of Japanese video cassette recorders (VCRs) to Europe.

VIDEO NASTIES: Members of the European Parliament have been duly horrified by a showing of extracts from 'video nasties' at Strasbourg. This was intended to initiate action against them on a European scale.

CAR PRICES: The Commission has forbidden the German Ford company to refuse to deliver right-hand drive cars to their German distributors in order to protect their British market.

MILK: The British government has issued a regulation allowing the import of heat-treated (HT) and sterilised milk. This aroused heat-treated protests from distributors and trade unions concerned. A debate in the House of Commons was also lively. The only thing anyone agreed on was that HT milk tasted horrible!

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