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DE : C.C.E. BRUXELLES - GPP46 - IMP. DIF. G.P.P.
A : BUREAU C.E. - WASHINGTON
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BRUSSELS, 11 AUGUST 1982
NOTE BIO(82)351 AUX BUREAUX NATIONAUX
CC. AUX MEMBRES DU GROUPE DU PORTE-PAROLE

ATTENTION SPECIALE WASHINGTON ET NEW YORK

STEEL USA (W. HELIN)

AT THE DAILY NOON BRIEFING WE MADE THE FOLLOWING REMARKS,
ON A STRICTLY OFF THE RECORD BASIS.

1. ON THE ANNOUNCED PRELIMINARY ANTI-DUMPING CASES: THIS
DOES NOT JEOPARDIZE THE ARRANGEMENT CONCLUDED FRIDAY LAST IN
WASHINGTON. THE COMMISSION HAD INDEED ANTICIPATED THE DOC S
PRELIMINARY DECISION THROUGH A CLEAR REFERENCE IN THE TEXT OF
THE ARRANGEMENT.

2. A PURELY TECHNICAL BRIEFING FOLLOWED TO FOCUS ON THE
REAL SIGNIFICANCE OF DOC S DECISION. WE STRESSED THAT THE DATA
DISCLOSED ARE REALLY TO BE CONSIDERED AS PRELIMINARY. THUS
CONVEYING THE MESSAGE THAT IF A FINAL DECISION WERE TO BE TAKEN
- WHICH WE DO NOT EXPECT TO HAPPEN - THE FIGURES RELEASED WOULD
MOST CERTAINLY BE WAY LOWER THAN THE ONES ANNOUNCED. WE
RESTRESSED THAT, AS A BASIS OF ESTIMATE, INDEED, DOC REFERRED TO
PRODUCTION COSTS INCLUDING AN 80/0 PROFIT MARGIN WHICH HAS BEEN
AND IS BEING FUNDAMENTALLY CONTESTED BY THE EC IN GATT. WE
ALSO REFERRED TO DOC S PRESS STATEMENT SAYING THAT THE MARGINS
MIGHT BE "SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED PRIOR TO A FINAL CALCULATION",
AS A RESULT OF CERTAIN EC CURRENCIES DEPRECIATION VIS-A-VIS THE
DOL.

3. WE HAVE ALSO RESTATED VICE-PRESIDENT DAVIGNON S QUOTES
IN THE PRESS ROOM OF LAST MONDAY INDICATING THAT TO OUR
KNOWLEDGE THE US GOVERNMENT, IN SPITE OF ALL STATEMENTS BY THE
STEEL INDUSTRY IN THE US, INFORMED US THAT IT STICKS TO THE
STEEL ARRANGEMENT CONCLUDED.

4. THE DISCUSSION BOTH WITH EC STEEL INDUSTRY (LAST NIGHT)
AND MEMBER GOVERNMENTS (THIS MORNING) CONFIRMED THE COMMISSION S
VIEW TO PROCEED WITH ALL LEGAL AND TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE
ARRANGEMENT SO AS TO BE READY BEFORE, OR THE LATEST AT, THE
SCHEDULED DEADLINE OF 15 SEPTEMBER 1982.

REGARDS,
K. VAN DER PAS COMEUR(16H30)///+

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