

# EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

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### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

January 23, 1962

#### EURATOM'S SECOND FIVE-YEAR RESEARCH PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 23 -- The preparation of Euratom's second five-year research program for the period 1963-67 is now well under way. The Commission of the European Atomic Energy Community estimates that \$480 million will be required for the execution of this program, as against \$215 million for the first five-year period, 1958-62.

The program has already been put before the Scientific and Technical Committee, which at its meeting on January 9 approved the broad outline and will study it further during a meeting scheduled for March. It will also be considered by the Consultative Committee for Research, the organization set up early in 1961 by the Euratom Council of Ministers to bring together those responsible for research in member countries and members of the Euratom Commission and research staff. This committee meets today and tomorrow under the chairmanship of the President of the Euratom Commission, Pierre Chatenet. The program will subsequently be put before the Council of Ministers.

During the first research period, the Commission was charged with research in three main directions: the industrial exploitation of atom power, the study of thermonuclear reactions, and the study of radioisotopes, including their uses in biology. So far, four Euratom research establishments are in the process of being established, and 250 research contracts or other agreements have been concluded with public or private organizations in the Community.

Research under the second five-year program will continue along the lines on which work has been started, but a considerably higher rate of expenditure is proposed on certain specific items: for instance, \$60 million on fast reactors (against \$6 million for the 1958-62 period) and \$30 million (compared to \$3.5 million for 1958-62) on the field of biology. Among the items envisaged under the fast reactor program are an association between Euratom and the French C.E.A. for the construction and operation of the Rapsodie project experimental fast reactor and a fast neutron critical assembly.