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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HIGH AUTHORITY ISSUES STATEMENT ON SUSPENDED UK NEGOTIATIONS

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 31 -- The High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community issued the following statement today from Luxembourg:

"The High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community, which has maintained ties of association with the United Kingdom since 1954, regrets that in consideration of the outcome of the conference of January 29, 1963, the negotiations with the Government of the United Kingdom with a view to its membership in the ECSC have been interrupted at a time when some of the essential problems of membership had still not been discussed.

"As counselor to the member governments in these negotiations, the High Authority has considered that its essential task, beginning with the founding of a partial economic community among the six European countries, has been to contribute to the realization of a larger and more solidly-based community.

"The High Authority will pursue its mission conferred upon it by the Treaty of Paris, drawing its inspiration from the Community spirit which is the very base of the European foundation. It recalls that the solidarity between the countries of the Community was conceived not only as irreversible but as open to any European country which is ready to adhere to the Treaty."