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E.C. VICE-PRESIDENT ANDRIESSEN TO MEET WITH U.S. OFFICIALS ON FARM ISSUES

Frans Andriessen, the European Community's Commissioner for Agriculture and Fisheries, will discuss problems in U.S.-E.C. agricultural trade relations with U.S. Administration officials and members of Congress during a June 24-25 visit to Washington.

Mr. Andriessen will meet with Secretary of State George Shultz; Agriculture Secretary John Block; Clayton Yeutter, the designated U.S. Trade Representative; and Congressional agriculture leaders.

A press briefing with Mr. Andriessen is scheduled for 3:15 p.m. Tuesday, June 25, at the office of the E.C. Delegation in Washington, 2100 M Street, N.W., Suite 707.

On June 26, Mr. Andriessen will visit Kansas City, Mo., where he will speak at a luncheon sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce of Greater Kansas City at 11:50 a.m. at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Mr. Andriessen's visit comes at a time of increased tension between the Community and the U.S. over the use of farm export subsidies. The E.C. Commission recently criticized a U.S. plan to subsidize wheat sales to Algeria.

Many in the U.S. incorrectly blame the E.C.'s Common Agricultural Policy for the problems faced by American farmers on world markets, Mr. Andriessen noted in a recent speech. When world trade in agriculture took a downturn in the 1980's, he added, "the desire to find scapegoats grew."

The U.S. and E.C., the world's largest agricultural trading entities, share a common problem--"agricultural policies that lead to an excess of supply over demand and thus risk a destabilization of world markets," Mr. Andriessen said. Both the U.S. and E.C. are attempting to reform those policies, but each in its own way, he said.

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Mr. Andriessen has been a member of the E.C. Commission, the Community's executive body, since 1981. He took over the agriculture and fisheries portfolio, and became a Vice-President of the 14-member Commission, in January 1985.

Mr. Andriessen was Minister of Finance of the Netherlands from 1977 to 1979. He was a member of the Dutch Parliament's Lower House from 1967 to 1977, and Chairman of the Catholic People's Party there from 1971 to 1977. He was a member of the Upper House in 1980. Mr. Andriessen was the E.C. Commissioner responsible for antitrust policies and relations with the European Parliament from 1981 to January 1985.