

Brussels, 28 June 1982

Communiqué that I had to sign down

COMMUNITY-UNITED STATES RELATIONS

The European Council held a detailed discussion on the development of economic relations between the Community and the United States since the Summit meeting at Versailles.

The European Council considers that the honouring of the commitments entered into at Versailles is in the interests of the world economy.

The European Council therefore addresses an urgent appeal to each of the participants at the Versailles meeting to honour the commitments then entered into, failing which there might be some doubt regarding the usefulness of such meetings.

In particular, with a lowering of interest rates a prerequisite for the recovery of the world economy, the Council expects that the American administration and Congress will take the necessary decisions to resolve the problem of the budget deficit.

Both the decisions or intentions announced concerning steel imports and the building of the pipeline in the USSR and the statements or measures taken against the common agricultural policy are likely to lead to a serious worsening of both economic and political relations between the United States and the Community. The European Council holds the view that the interests of both the United States and the Community require that every means be used to avoid such a situation. The European Council confirms the conclusions of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs, meeting in the Council on 21 and 22 June 1982, on relations with the United States.

The European Council can do no more than draw the conclusion that the various United States decisions stem from the same procedure. A unilaterally defined US position is imposed on partners by having recourse to provisions under national law, unilateral interpretations of multilateral acts or new techniques in implementing existing rules.

Maintenance of the open world trade system will be seriously jeopardized by retroactive international trade rules, attempts to exercise extra-territorial legal powers on external trade and failure to comply with existing trade contracts.

The current situation of relations between the Community and the United States is particularly disquieting as it would seem to derive from an inadequate awareness on the part of the US authorities of the more deep-running consequences which the addition of these unilateral measures could have on Community-United States relationships in general.

The European Council therefore considers that it is of the highest importance that a genuine and effective dialogue be restored between persons, in the United States and the Community, responsible for decisions in areas of possible dispute. This dialogue must be instituted as a matter of urgency and before any decisions are taken by the United States authorities. The Community, for its part, is prepared to make a constructive contribution to this dialogue.

ANNEX

EUROPEAN COUNCIL: DRAFT CONCLUSIONS ON
PORTUGAL AND SPAIN

(Text provisionally agreed by Foreign Affairs Council on
17 November)

The European Council recalled that the Member States of the Community decided to open negotiations for the accession of Portugal and Spain in the knowledge that all the objectives of the Community, as set out in the preamble to the EEC Treaty, were shared by the democratic governments and by the peoples of the two countries concerned.

The European Council confirmed the political commitment which was the basis for that decision and emphasised the determination of the Community to bring the negotiations to a successful conclusion. ~~The Heads of State and Government welcomed the positive results recently achieved in these negotiations in a number of important sectors and stressed the importance of continuing progress.~~ They recalled the acceptance by the applicant countries that they will accede on the basis of the Community Treaties and subordinate legislation in force on the date of accession, subject only to such transitional arrangements as may be

/agreed.

*omitted at Netherlands
request.*

agreed. They emphasised the need for both the Community and the acceding countries to make good use of the period until accession for careful preparations for the Community's further enlargement by introducing the necessary reforms so that the potential benefits for both sides can be realised. They agreed that in the Community's deliberations on its internal development, regard would need to be paid to the importance of the accession of Portugal and Spain. They also agreed on the importance of the contacts established between the Ten and the applicant countries in the framework of political cooperation and confirmed that it is their intention to continue to keep Portugal and Spain closely informed about developments in political cooperation. They look forward to the day when the leaders of those two countries will take their places in the European Council as full and equal members.