

It was reported on Sept. 27, 1985, that Iceland and Morocco had decided to establish diplomatic relations at ambassadorial level.—(Financial Times - Times - Guardian - Observer - BBC Summary of World Broadcasts - New York Times - International Herald Tribune - Le Monde - Neue Zürcher Zeitung - News from Iceland - Icelandic Embassy, London) (Prev. rep. 33236 A; 32286 A)

A. EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES — Appointment of enlarged Commission following accession of Portugal and Spain

With the accession of Portugal and Spain to the European Communities on Jan. 1, 1986 [see 33996 A for signature of Accession Treaty], an enlarged Commission of 17 members with a limited redistribution of portfolios was announced at the Commission's first 1986 sitting on Jan. 3. A full list of members is given below.

President

M. Jacques Delors (France)..... Secretariat, Legal Services, Spokesman's Group, Interpreting and Conference Service, Security Office, Monetary Affairs

Vice-Presidents

Mr Frans Andriessen (Netherlands)..... Agriculture, Forestry
 Mr Henning Christophersen (Denmark) Budget, Financial Control, Personnel and Administration
 Lord Cockfield (United Kingdom) Internal Market, Customs Union, Taxation, Financial Institutions
 Herr Karl-Heinz Narjes (West Germany) Industrial Affairs, Information Technology, Science and Research, Joint Research Centre
 Signor Lorenzo Natali (Italy)..... Co-operation and Development
 *Sr Manuel Marín (Spain)..... Social Affairs, Employment, Education and Training

Members

M. Claude Cheysson (France)..... Mediterranean Policy, North-South Relations
 Mr Stanley Clinton Davis (United Kingdom)..... Environment, Transport, Nuclear Safety
 Mr Willy de Clercq (Belgium)..... External Relations, Trade
 Mr Nicholas Mosar (Luxembourg)..... Energy, Euratom Supply Agency, Publications Office
 Herr Alois Pfeiffer (West Germany)..... Economic Affairs, Regional Policy, Statistical Office
 Signor Carlo Ripa di Meana (Italy)..... Institutional Questions, Matters concerning a Citizens' Europe, Information Policy, Culture, Tourism
 Mr Peter Sutherland (Ireland)..... Competition, Relations with European Parliament
 Mr Grigoris Varfis (Greece)..... Co-ordination of Structural Funds, Consumer Protection
 *Sr António Cardoso e Cunha (Portugal) Fisheries
 *Sr Abel Matutes (Spain)..... Credit and Investment, Financial Instruments, Small and Medium Businesses

* New member.

Of the new Commissioners, Sr Marín (36) had been Spanish Secretary of State with responsibility for relations with the European Communities in the Socialist government of Sr Felipe González and had been involved in many of the concluding negotiations on enlargement; Sr Matutes (44) was a banker and deputy leader of Spain's opposition Popular Alliance; and Sr Cardoso e Cunha (52) had been Portuguese Agriculture and Fisheries Minister from January 1980 to August 1981 [see 30157 A; 31224 A].

The existing Commissioners affected by the redistribution of responsibilities were M. Delors (who lost responsibility for Co-ordination of Structural Funds), Mr Andriessen (who lost Fisheries but took on Forestry), Signor Natali (whose Enlargement portfolio was no longer necessary), Mr Davis (who lost Forestry and Consumer Protection), Herr Pfeiffer (who lost Employment, Credit and Investment but took on Regional Policy), Mr Sutherland (who lost Social Affairs, Education and Training but took over Relations with the European Parliament), and Mr Varfis (whose previous portfolios were Regional Policy and Relations with the European Parliament).

The nomination of the two Spanish Commissioners had been made on Nov. 20, 1985, while the Portuguese nomination was announced on Dec. 2.—(Financial Times - Times - Guardian - El País, Madrid - Le Monde - Neue Zürcher Zeitung - Office of the European Commission, London) (Prev. rep. Commission appointments 33409 A)

B. EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES — 1986 fisheries quotas - Renewal of ban on baby seal skin imports

The total allowable catches for 1986 under the Community common fisheries policy agreed in 1983 [for which see 32338 A] were finalized by the Council of (Fisheries) Ministers on Dec. 20, 1985. Agreements on 1986 quotas had also been reached beforehand with Norway, the Faroe Islands, Sweden and Greenland.

The quotas covered catches in the waters of the 10 existing Community member countries (i.e. not including Spain and Portugal) and in waters managed jointly with non-member countries. Quotas were as follows for the main species: cod 377,470 tonnes (469,350 tonnes in 1985—see 33681 A); haddock 245,630 (197,950); saithe 157,000 (160,100); whiting 176,200 (191,450); plaice 211,690 (208,480); mackerel 349,000 (350,500); herring 514,415 (413,350).

The common fisheries policy was due to be applied in Spain and Portugal over a 7-10-year transitional period, during which licensing arrangements were to apply for Spanish fishing in Community waters beyond a 12-mile coastal economic zone. The Dec. 20 meeting failed to finalize such questions as the access of Community (and in particular French) vessels to Spanish waters. As regards Portugal, restricted reciprocal access to waters beyond the 12-mile zone had been agreed, although there was to be no such reciprocal access within the 12-mile coastal zone.

Under the agreement with Norway, which was reached on the weekend of Nov. 30-Dec. 1, Norwegian fishermen could take up to 200,000 tonnes of the jointly managed North Sea herring stocks of 570,000 tonnes, and landings of mackerel and blue whiting were also increased. Under the Greenland agreement the Communities retained a cod quota of 11,500 tonnes as in 1985 [ibid.].

Earlier, on July 24, an Irish Navy boat fired on the Spanish fishing vessel, the *Veracruz Segundo*, 140 km off Cape Clear, south-west Ireland, after it had reportedly cast its nets illegally in Irish waters and refused to obey an instruction to stop for investigation. In late November 1985 an Irish Navy patrol fired on five Spanish trawlers fishing in Irish waters, detaining two of the vessels in Cork. [For earlier incidents see pages 33589-90.]

The Council of (Fisheries) Ministers on Sept. 27, 1985, renewed for four years a ban on Community imports of skins and products of white coat pups of harp seals and of blueback pups of hooded seals. Following the introduction of the ban in 1983 [see page

32340], which supermarkets were threatened with baby seals for

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