

Ray in Europe in effort to improve trade

By DAVID YEPSEN

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Iowa Gov. Robert Ray and his wife, Billie, are on an 11-day visit to Europe as part of an effort to improve trade between the United States and European nations.

Aides to the governor said his visit is not a vacation, but is a working trip for Ray to discuss trade issues with government and financial leaders of the European Economic Community, also known as the Common Market.

The Rays are the guests of the Atlantic Visitors Association, a private group that accepts tax money from the U.S. government to improve relations between the United States and Europe. The Rays and aide Kenneth Quinn will spend this week in Brussels, Belgium, for their meetings. They then are scheduled for a two-day Iowa Development Commission trade mission to France before returning to Iowa June 2.

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