

## EU aims to talk 'soon' to US over Galileo navigation system security

06/21/2002

AFX News

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BRUSSELS (AFX) - The European Commission hopes the EU will hold talks very soon with the US over the security of, and frequencies to be used by, the EU's planned Galileo satellite navigation system, said commission spokesman Gilles Gantelet.

He was dismissing as "fantasy" fears expressed by NATO assistant secretary for defence Robert Bell that in a conflict situation NATO might be unable to jam Galileo without also jamming the frequencies the US and NATO will use for many of their own signals, so endangering soldiers' lives.

Gantelet said Bell's comments were inappropriate.

"We think it should be discussed between the EU and the US. It's not in the NATO mandate. We hope it will happen very soon," he said.

"We'll look at what are the concerns, the problems and how we can solve them. We should speak about realities not fantasies," he said.

The commission, which has pushed hard for the EU to establish its own satellite global positioning system, has always said it should be compatible with and complementary to the US system.

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