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☐ Account of Oral Interview

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A GERMAN COMMUNIST FILE ON GERHARDY

UNDER the heading, "A Comany Union of Nations?", Hans Berger, German Communist now sojourning in the United States and reputed to hold important rank in the international Communist hierarchy, reviewed Walter Lippmann's recent book, U.S. War Aims, in the September issue of The Communist, official monthly edited by Earl Browder. Lippmann's previous book, U.S. Foreign Policy: Shield of the Republic, Berger wrote, had been a service to the country in its stress on the need to have done with isolationism once and for all. Now however, instead of his earlier "nuclear alliance" of the Big Powers, Mr. Lippmann had offered an "ersatz system of monstrous balance-of-power through the organization of orbits."

Mr. Lippmann was spiked on the horns of a dilemma in determining which orbit Germany should belong to after the war, said Berger. Giving the Chamberlain thesis a new garb, Lippmann had now suggested that Germany should be made dependent on maritime commerce by being included in the Atlantic Community, and had argued that Germany's Eastward urge would make her dangerous to Russia. In Berger's opinion, Lippmann really meant that extension of the Russian orbit, by inclusion of Germany, to the shores of

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the Atlantic would be intolerable to the Western world. Was the extension of the Atlantic Community to the ~~strategic~~ borders of the Soviet Union any more tolerable? Moreover, Berger went on, since maritime trade would be more or less under the control of the United States, America would control German economy and finance. Could future German trade and finance be seriously discussed without mentioning reparations, especially to the Soviet Union and other devastated countries, which were to be excluded from any control over Germany? If provocation against an ally was realism, Lippmann was an eminent realist. Since Lippmann's starting point was not the policy of Teheran, but rather the organization of blocs, there could be no common control of Germany by the Great Powers, but only incorporation of Germany in a new war-breeding bloc.

Berger maintained that Lippmann had organized his Atlantic Community not against a new German aggression but against the Soviet Union. It was basically nothing but a "dignified" world cordon sanitaire of 80-90 per cent of the world under the leadership of the United States and her junior partner, England. The time had come, Berger concluded, to distinguish between those ne isolationists committed to Teheran and those aggressive imperialists who wanted to substitute for the collective security of the United Nations "a company union of nations -- the Atlantic Community."