

A Special Report on: Germany

Two Former German Students Write Comments On West Germany's Ratification of Treaty, EDC

DUSSELDORF-GERRESHEIM, GERMANY

The West German Bundestag, the house of representatives, has given its final approval to the European Defense Commitment. The vote of 224 to 165 with two abstentions made the Bundestag the first legislative chamber in Europe to ratify the six-nation army pact to create a two-million men, one-uniform continental defense force.

At the same session with 226 to 164 and two abstentions, the Bundestag approved the Allied-Bonn peace contract which would restore a limited sovereignty to West Germany.

The decision of the Bundestag was the most significant, although not final, step in German ratification of the European army treaty and the peace contract. The Bundesrat, the representation of the several states composed in the Federal Republic, must still vote on the pacts which the President of the Federal Republic has to sign yet.

Finally, a court battle looms on the constitutionality of the rearming.

The vote came after nine hours of debate in which Chancellor

The two letters here printed concern what Walter Schwarzlose, special student in journalism from Germany last year, call "the most important event in German-American relations." It is the ratification of the peace treaty and the European Defense Community by the West German parliament.

The letters are from Gunther Barth, also a special student in journalism from Germany last year, and Schwarzlose. Barth's letter provides an analysis of the facts and some interpretation, while Schwarzlose goes into further interpretation.

Dr. Konrad Adenauer's three-party coalition held virtually solid. The Chancellor's forces gained a total of eight votes on each of the treaties since the semi-final vote last December.

The anti-rearmament votes were cast by the Social Democrats, the Communists, the neutral Centrists, and some scattered independent representatives of Right-wing groups. The leader of the opposition, Erich Ollenhauer, demanded in the discussions that

the Germans scrap the idea of joining a European army and insist instead upon a "grand alliance" of Britain, Scandinavia, and the West European nations.

Dr. Adenauer's decisive victory overshadows the visits of French Prime Minister Mayer and Foreign Minister Bidault in Washington. Dr. Adenauer hopes to give President Eisenhower some more important argument for his talks with the French statesmen.

Some circles in Paris claim that, with its vote, the Bundestag avoids sharing any responsibility if the European Defense Commitment shouldn't find the approval of the six nations, in order to have a good position in new talks about a different German contribution to the defense of Europe.

The speculation in Paris could be based on the joint agreement which a declaration of the coalition parties found in the Bundestag after the vote on the treaties. The declaration says that the government should concentrate its efforts to secure the newly-won limited sovereignty by a NATO membership.

Gunther Barth.

have special rights—a fact which was vividly disputed by the opposition (the Social Democratic Party), but which meets at the bottom of the whole problem our own interests.

It is a sort of "wit of history" (as the saying goes in our country), that Germany, which was often blamed—for good reasons—of being loaded with a sense of stubborn nationalism, is the first of the European nations involved to pass those treaties in the parliament.

France, which rang intensively the bell for the overthrow of nationalistic attitudes—one may recall her excellent initiative in setting up the Schumann plan—obviously feels kind of uncomfortable as European political and military matters are really put

into practice. She requests additional novels to those agreements in order to get out as much as possible for her own nation.

It looks like Italy, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg will follow soon in ratifying the undersigned treaty, so that France is necessarily forced to check again her position, if she does not want to become responsible for a possible failure of a realistic and strong political and military conception in Europe.

As far as the relations between Germany and the United States are concerned, the events of the last week in Bonn mean a very decisive link in our cooperation, and Dr. Adenauer's visit to the United States in April will demonstrate this to the American people.

Walter Schwarzlose.

And We've Got Liberal Arts



"Picture of an admirer of mine over at th' school of mines."

notes to the editor

MEMORIES AND A PLAN

In 1950 I visited an uncle in Berlin, and we saw all four sectors. I had a U.S. passport. Later on, near Blankenburg, I also traveled in the Harz mountain region of the Russian zone, without permission.

In the interest of world peace and solution of the German geopolitical problem I have some suggestions to make. Germany is united now better with respect to interzonal trade than politics. We and the Soviet Union should tell the German draftsmen, financiers, and construction engineers of all three zones to get together and build a new capitol building and a new capitol city for the new Germany at the place where the three zones meet.

After the building is started, the government officials and political scientists can get together to draft a new constitution and decide on methods of voting. When the time comes, representative inspectors from each of the zones should be free to travel

in all zones to inspect and keep track of equalized withdrawal of the various armies of occupation.

Also, the top executives of the police forces would have to work out a single police organization, etc. If Germany wants an American or Swiss kind of democracy, okay. . . If they decide on national socialism like Britain had, let them try it out. If the majority vote that they want communism (this I do not expect), let them have what they want until they get tired of it.

Berlin is a "powder keg." If we really want world peace, we will not try to show off there. We need not make any more investments in Berlin, such as a Henry Ford institute or a new university.

It would be more conducive to world peace if we moved out of Berlin as soon as we agree with Russians to let the Germans build their new capitol building by themselves and for themselves. Jerome E. Frederick.

HOOKER AGREES

Concerning the Emerald's editorial, "Our Political Dilemma," of March 31, I believe the Emerald has hit the nail on the head in condemning the extreme party polarization of UO student politics and in blasting residence in living organizations as the basis of party membership.

Since polarization does exist (thus, harmfully leaving no middle ground) and since party responsibility (whether on a federal, state local, or college level) can not be attained and maintained without discipline, the Emerald is fully justified in upholding the axiom that "one side has just as much right to throw up barriers (i.e., exclusion clauses and two-year penalty period) as the other."

But the parties, notwithstanding the evil in the arrangement, have more than a right to do this. They have a duty to do so if the party is to assume responsibility for its candidates, regardless of

the burden which this may entail.

But, as the Emerald claims, "this situation (of polarization) can't help but increase the stupid, bitter friction which exists between greeks and independents . . . there is no difference between one who lives in a house and one who lives in a dorm. None. Absolutely none."

There is no reason for advocating living organization residence as a qualification for membership in a party here at UO unless we are to be resigned to the "easiest way out." Principles, and not residence, should be the key to lock the strength within a party.

Residence should come in only to achieve those principles. Residence should be cast in a supporting role for the foremost actor, principle. The Emerald has done a service in pointing this out.

Bob Hooker,
Kappa Sigma.

MUNSTER, GERMANY

Last week the parliament of the German Federal Republic ratified the general treaty for Western Germany and the agreement on the European Defense Community with a remarkable majority.

Therewith a very important step in post-war political events has been made: Western Germany now will be a sovereign state, the high commissioners will become ambassadors, the German Federal Republic can act independently in foreign affairs.

As a member of the European Defense Community she has the closest alliance with the United States, and only in military affairs which are connected with security and the defense of the Western world do the big powers

ON SODA BAR 'N THINGS

Only Count the Chick That Hatches

The crowds really used to mill around the Student Union soda bar.

A student trying to order something found himself in the middle of a massive mob. Even if he were the first in line (except that there was no "line"), he was likely to end up the last person served.

That was until November, 1951, when "cattle chutes" — rope railings along the soda bar — were installed. These railings channeled patrons through in an organized manner, and ever since, students have been served in order. Any delay, at least while ordering, is caused by the time taken by cogitating customers.

The chutes were set up after a suggestion by Mike Lally, then junior class president, in an ASUO senate meeting, and a follow-up suggestion by then Emerald associate editor Gretchen Grondahl. Dick Williams, SU director, said at the time of the railings' installation in the two-year-old Student Union that they were temporary.

They've been in for over a year now, and they look as if they will be somewhat permanent. The improvement over the old "system" is pretty obvious.

Why do we bring all this up now? Well, while we were looking through old Emeralds (a perverted egocentric trait in Emerald shacksters), we came across an "Inquiring Reporter" on the subject of those rope railings.

Several students were asked, "Do you believe this plan will be a good one?" The answers, in light of hindsight, were interesting.

Samples:
"Horrible idea. It will spoil the beauty of the Student Union and cheapen its appearance. There really isn't any serious problem about the service."

"Never! Up at Oregon State this problem never occurred to us."

"No, it won't be any faster and they can't possibly serve any faster than they do now anyway."

"Install an automat and let it go at that. A rope won't help."

"It would make me feel like a monkey in a cage to be roped in like that."

"No. People will just have to be content to take their turns. A rope would be torn down in a minute." (It's been there for more than 15 months.)

Now we're not the one to take

lightly public opinion. The "masses" are often ahead of most of their leaders on many things. Other Emerald "Inquiring Reporters," for example, showed most interviewees predicting that Gen. Eisenhower, not yet a definite candidate for the Republican nomination, would be elected president, and also predicting that Harry Truman would not be a candidate for the Democratic nomination.

Perhaps even the student who was asked, "Do you favor the use of grades in colleges and universities or would you favor their abolishment?" had the answer we've all overlooked. The answer was, "No, because for the amount of effort that's put in on each subject there should be some reward and the people who have studied would not get anything out of it. There would not be any point in coming to school if grades were abolished."

We'd just like to point out the danger in going overboard on anything. ("Skim milk masquerades as cream . . . dogs are found in many mangers . . . only count the chick that hatches. . .") the Gilbert and Sullivan lines go.

Or would you rather be a mule?—(A. K.)

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