

Secret Adenauer Atlantic Union Bid

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A LONG-GUARDED SECRET was revealed by Rep. Findley in the next column of his accompanying testimony when he said that Franz Joseph Strauss spoke at Chancellor Adenauer's direction when he came out strongly for Atlantic Union in his Georgetown speech November 21, 1961, Bonn's then Defense Minister then sent up this trial balloon seven weeks before the opening in Paris of the Convention which Congress authorized in a 1960 resolution to explore how NATO could gain "greater cooperation and unity of purpose." Tell-taledly, it didn't mention "union" or "federal," because of a State Department allergy. "Der Alte" was not so timid; witness this from the Strauss speech:

"I advocate the establishment of an Atlantic Union *** We are facing perhaps the greatest challenge to any generation in history. *** Fear would be a poor counselor ... Extraordinary problems call for extraordinary solutions ... The price we would have to pay otherwise is far greater than the abandonment of some national sovereignty."

With appalling consequences, State's maxim-silenced gun shut down Adenauer's trial balloon and, next, the 1962 Convention's plea for a "true Atlantic Community." Discouraged, Adenauer stood by de Gaulle when he, denouncing U.S. aims to "dominate," vetoed in 1963 British entry into the Common Market, seceded from NATO and expelled the U.S. from bases now sorely needed to meet the Soviet Mid East threat (see p. 16). And so the U.S. marched off to "save freedom" by war in Vietnam--no by the peaceful Union Bonn urged--CKS.