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LIPPMANN INTERVIEW

MOSCOW PRAVDA 17 JUN 61 A

(TASS DISPATCH FROM NEW YORK: "A NEW APPROACH TO THE GERMAN PROBLEM IS REQUIRED")

(TEXT) THE WELL KNOWN COMMENTATOR, WALTER LIPPMANN, APPEARING ON TELEVISION, INSISTENTLY RECOMMENDED THAT THE UNITED STATES CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION WITH REGARD TO THE STATUS OF WEST BERLIN. THE UNITED STATES, HE SAID, MUST DEFEND THE RIGHT OF THE WEST TO MAINTAIN PHYSICAL, ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, AND CULTURAL CONTACTS WITH WEST BERLIN. HOWEVER, "THE QUESTION OF THE JURIDICAL BASIS AND THE LAWFUL RIGHTS CONNECTED WITH IT CAN BECOME THE SUBJECT OF NEGOTIATIONS."

IT IS NECESSARY FOR THE UNITED STATES, SAID THE COMMENTATOR, TO CHANGE ITS APPROACH TO THE GERMAN PROBLEM. SO FAR, HE SAID, THE UNITED STATES HAS PERSISTENTLY ADHERED TO THE IDEA THAT THE PRESENT STATUS OF BERLIN AND GERMANY MUST BE MAINTAINED AND THAT ANY CHANGE WOULD BE DISADVANTAGEOUS FOR THE WEST. HOWEVER, EVEN THE POPULATION OF WEST BERLIN AND WEST GERMANY CONSIDERS THE PRESENT STATUS OF WEST BERLIN UNSATISFACTORY.

LIPPMANN CRITICIZED THE AMERICAN PROGRAMS OF "AID" FOR FOREIGN STATES. IT IS NECESSARY, HE SAID, "TO REMOVE THE MOST HORRIBLE ABUSES" CONNECTED WITH THIS AID.

LIPPMANN SHARPLY CRITICIZED WASHINGTON'S POLICY WITH REGARD TO CUBA. THE INTRUSION IN CUBA, HE DECLARED, WAS "INCORRECT AND STUPID."

LIPPMANN REJECTS, AS ENTIRELY UNFOUNDED, THE RUMORS THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAS CREATED MILITARY BASES IN CUBA. "THERE ARE NO INDICATIONS THAT THERE IS EVEN A SINGLE SOVIET MILITARY BASE IN CUBA," HE SAID. MOREOVER, SAID LIPPMANN, "NOT LONG AGO ALLEN DULLES TOLD ME PERSONALLY THAT AT THE TIME OF THE INTRUSION NO RUSSIAN PLANES WHATSOEVER WERE OBSERVED AND THAT CASTRO HAD USED OLD AMERICAN AIRCRAFT."

AS REGARDS THE FABRICATIONS ABOUT SOVIET ROCKET BASES WHICH ALLEGEDLY EXIST IN CUBA, LIPPMANN DECLARED THAT THE SOVIET UNION HAS ABSOLUTELY NO NEED FOR SUCH BASES SINCE IT POSSESSES ROCKETS CAPABLE OF REACHING THE MOON.

LIPPMANN CRITICIZED VERY SHARPLY THE ROLE PLAYED BY THE U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY PRIOR TO THE INTRUSION IN CUBA. HE STRESSED THAT THE UNITED STATES ACTED UNLAWFULLY WITH REGARD TO CUBA, VIOLATING ITS TREATIES.

LIPPMANN CAUTIONED PARTICULARLY AGAINST AMERICAN INTERFERENCE IN LAOS, CUBA, AND OTHER COUNTRIES. "THE REASONABLE STRATEGIC PRINCIPLE WHICH CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING: THE SOVIET UNION DOES NOT INTERFERE IN THESE AREAS, NEITHER DOES IT SEND ITS TROOPS; AND AS LONG AS IT DOES NOT INTERFERE, WE MUST ALSO NOT INTERFERE."

THE BASIC PROBLEM CONFRONTING THE UNITED STATES IS HOW TO "MAINTAIN INTACT AND BALANCE OF POWER BETWEEN OURSELVES AND THE SOVIET UNION AND, PROCEEDING FROM THIS VERY PRINCIPLE, I STAND AGAINST INTERFERENCE, FOR EXAMPLE IN LAOS."

LIPPMANN URGED THE U.S. STATESMAN TO "APPLY EVERY EFFORT, TO APPLY ALL THEIR WISDOM TO PREVENT A THING WHICH COULD PROVE TO BE AN IRREPARABLE CALAMITY FOR THE WHOLE WORLD."

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