

February 24, 1959

Congressman Francis E. Walter, Chairman
Committee on Un-American Activities
House Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Walter:

For some time, we have been trying to locate a quotation which has been attributed to Lenin in 1923. It reads as follows:

"First we [the Communists] will take eastern Europe, then the masses of Asia, then we will encircle the United States, which will be the last bastion of capitalism. We will not have to attack. It will fall like an overripe fruit into our hands."

This quotation has appeared in a number of places, with the statement that it was taken from Volume X, page 172, of Lenin's writings. However, nowhere have I seen any reference to the edition - whether German, or an English translation, etc. - nor to the date of publication. Do you suppose your research staff could help us out by telling us just exactly where in Lenin's writings this statement appears?

Any assistance you can give us will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Bettina Bien