

European Community Information Service
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Biography

HANS VON DER GROEBEN

Member, The Commission, European Economic Community

Commissioner von der Groeben is in charge of all matters of competition and antitrust in the Common Market, and also is a member of the EEC Commission's working groups on economic and financial affairs, agriculture, and overseas development.

Mr. von der Groeben has been active for some time in European integration. In 1955 he was chairman of the German delegation at the Common Market planning conference in Brussels and, in 1955-56, was one of the authors of the "Spaak Report," which set forth the aims and means of establishing the EEC. In 1956 he served as chairman of the Common Market Intergovernmental Committee at the Brussels Conference called to draft the treaty establishing the EEC.

In January, 1958, Mr. von der Groeben was appointed one of the EEC's nine original commissioners by the foreign ministers of the six EEC countries.

Mr. von der Groeben was born in 1907 in Langheim, East Prussia. He was educated at the Charlottenburg University of Technology and later studied law and economics in Berlin, Bonn and Gottingen. In 1933 he became an official of the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture. During World War II, he served as a German army officer. In 1945 he became a member of the Finance Ministry of Lower Saxony. With the inauguration of the European Coal and Steel Community in 1952, he became chief of one of its subdivisions.

Mr. von der Groeben is not fluent in English. He has made addresses in the United States, however, through an interpreter.

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