

...What Really Happened

makes a public statement giving full support to West German efforts to free the hijack victims.

Notably, the negotiations excluded two of West Germany's most prominent "British" faction leaders: Josef Strauss of the Christian Social Union, who later bitterly complains of not being briefed while he was in Saudi Arabia, and long-time British agent Willy Brandt, head of the Social Democratic Party.

The negotiations between West Germany and Somalia authorize the issuing of orders to 60 West German commandos to head for Mogadishu. The Greek government of Karamanlis authorizes the use of the island of Crete as a stopover for the commando unit after assurances that technical and health personnel were aboard in case of an emergency.

The West German plane with the commandos on board arrives in Mogadishu that evening with its landing lights off.

The decision for a commando attack, made in collaboration with Somali President Barre, receives the backing of France and the East Bloc nations. It is scheduled for 2 a.m. the next day, just before the latest ultimatum by the hijackers is to expire.

Two events nearly sabotage the planned commando attack, threatening the lives of the hijack victims. Israeli intelligence's special communications intercept unit in Tel Aviv, a unit specializing in monitoring air hijackings, picks up and tapes communications between the GSG-9

plane and ground control. These communications are given to news agencies and aired on Israeli TV, and Austrian TV and radio. Only Schmidt's demand for a blackout enforced by diplomatic pressure allows plans for a raid to proceed.

Then, two hours before the planned commando raid, communication lines between the Mogadishu airport and Schmidt's crisis staff are cut in Italy.

Plans for the raid continue. The commando force slides under the hijacked plane and fastens plastic explosives to the doors.

Tuesday, Oct. 18

The GSG-9 special commando forces begin their assault on the plane, blowing open the doors and exploding special nonlethal grenades to incapacitate the terrorists. In seven minutes the assault, and the hijacking, are over.

Chancellor Schmidt dispatches telegrams to Giscard of France, U.S. President Carter, Barre of Somalia, Greek President Karamanlis, British Prime Minister Callaghan, and the heads of East European governments to thank them for their help in stopping the terrorists.

The Communist Mayor of Jerusalem files suit against the Israeli Ministry of Communications for their complicity in attempting to sabotage West Germany's anti-terrorist plan.

W. Germany Sharpens It's Best Antiterrorist Weapon

West Germany is sharpening its most powerful weapon against terrorism, one more powerful, in fact, than hundreds of anti-terrorist police squads: a sound program for energy expansion with nuclear power as its centerpiece. The combined forces of Bonn's "all-party coalition" are on the verge of forcing an end to the de facto moratorium on domestic nuclear plant construction, enforced for almost a year by environmentalist saboteurs both inside and outside the government.

The speedy resumption of nuclear plant construction was signaled this week by a new set of energy guidelines issued by the executive committee of the Social Democratic Party, the ruling party in the government. The guidelines call for an end to the moratorium and recommend that construction should proceed even if the question of "final waste disposal" is not settled. This is a complete reversal of an earlier SPD resolution which called for a halt to all construction until the waste disposal question was solved, and therefore signifies that forces within the party backing Federal Chancellor

Helmut Schmidt have won the upper hand over the SPD's proterrorist, environmentalist wing led by SPD Chairman Willy Brandt.

The resolution has already enabled the SPD's parliamentary faction to vote in favor of allocating 180 million deutschmarks (\$78 million) for West Germany's fast-breeder reactor project near Kalkar. These funds were frozen early this year by Research and Technology Minister Hans Matthöfer, an ally of the SPD's environmentalist faction.

At the same time, an Oct. 8 meeting between Chancellor Schmidt and British Prime Minister James Callaghan raised new hopes for Europe's controversial nuclear fusion project, the Joint European Torus (JET). Schmidt indicated to Callaghan that he would no longer oppose the establishment of the JET project at Britain's Atomic Energy Authority laboratories near Culham, provided other member countries of the European Economic Community do no object. In return for this favor, West Germany would expect extra funding for even more advanced fusion projects underway at this

main research site at Garching. This may be decided at a meeting next week of energy ministers from the EEC countries.

Role of Unions

West Germany's trade unions, in collaboration with heavy industry, have played an important role in making this turnaround possible. Passive on nuclear issues until a month ago, the trade unions have been forced into motion by Schmidt's forces and are planning a series of pronuclear demonstrations, culminating in a giant rally in Dortmund this November. The German Trade Union Federation (DGB) has announced that any stalling on nuclear construction "cannot possibly go without its effect on the employment situation," even though the DGB is still officially clinging to its "waste disposal" quibbles. The public workers union has labeled the environmentalists "citizens initiative" groups "artificial" and enemies of democracy.

Having the country's trade unions fully mobilized for nuclear energy means that Schmidt, in collaboration with opposition leaders like Christian Democratic Union Chairman Helmut Kohl, can put together an almost unstoppable domestic and foreign nuclear policy. The story of West Germany's pending nuclear fuel reprocessing deal with France is a case in point. Two weeks ago, a delegation of "left" SPD parliamentarians traveled to La Hague, the site of a reprocessing plant whose facilities France is offering to West Germany. When the delegation returned, it recommended that the deal should be called off because of opposition from the French trade unions and inadequacies in the facilities. The government then sent two other parliamentarians to investigate. The latter revealed that the earlier group

was lying, and had never even held discussions with authorities at La Hague.

Another case in point is the decision by Federal Interior Minister Werner Maihöfer — never a great friend of nuclear energy — to permit the states of Bavaria and of North Rhine-Westphalia to establish temporary nuclear waste dumps, thereby eliminating waste disposal as an issue of contention.

Now that the Social Democratic Party has rejected the environmentalist policies of Willy Brandt, its chairman, Brandt no longer has any domestic base of operations, and is compelled to rely solely on such supranational, monetarist organizations as his Second International and his World Bank sponsored "Brandt Commission" for the Third World. At a meeting of the Second International in Madrid this week, he and his Swedish cohort Olof Palme presented a report which called for international restriction on the transfer of nuclear technology to the Third World, since "this would serve as a cover for nuclear arms proliferation." "The serious thing," Brandt later told a Mexican journalist, "is that these nuclear resources are going to countries not in a position to use them."

In the present political atmosphere in Bonn, Brandt's espousal of U.S. President Carter's energy conservation push is highly unpopular, to say the least. As Mr. Lantzke, German Executive Officer of the International Energy Agency told the business daily *Handelsblatt* today, "We should not underestimate the dangers of the Carter government's nuclear nonproliferation policies." He further warned that contrary to what Carter himself says, "a severe growth crisis" could ensue "if industrial nations are not able to coordinate parallel policies of energy growth."

Int'l Press Reflects Both Sides Of The Battle

The way that major newspapers of different nations responded to the West German commandos' successful rescue operation in Mogadishu last week reveals a pattern of apparent, sharp differences in the political orientation to terrorism of powerful interests in those nations. The following are a sampling of excerpts by country.

West Germany

Die Welt, Bonn, Editorial Oct. 18

...a family of nations is coming into being due to terrorism, but the solidarity of nations must be proven by solidarity in action. ... (after detailing the inability of the pursuit commandos to come into contact with the hijacked plane in Rome, Cyprus and Dubai) reserve with respect to this international complicity has lasted too long...

Suddeutsche Zeitung, Munich, Editorial, Oct. 19

...Bonn showed strength and courage...but these virtues are exactly what raises French prejudices about German reactionary forces...one can be sure that this aspect will be the center of attention in the French press during the following weeks.

France

Le Figaro, Paris, Editorial Oct. 17

What is to be done. First, to arrive very quickly at an agreement between states which will isolate in international society—without discrimination as to social and political regimes—the terrorists and all countries giving them asylum. Decide by common agreement that any action of blackmail tending to the liberation of a terrorist who has been found guilty and imprisoned, will lead automatically to the execution of that terrorist...The essential thing is to adopt, vis-a-vis terrorism, an attitude of resistance. The only response to the danger of fascism is courage.

Le Monde, Editorial, Oct. 19

The nervousness of the police forces is no longer justifiable once it is demonstrated that *sang froid* (cold-bloodedness) pays. To hunt down intellectuals because they fulfill their vocation of Cassandras is to stifle liberties at the roots.

Italy

Il Tempo (Rome daily linked to Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti), Editorial by Enrico Mattei, Oct. 19