

# Ponto's Contribution To The Grand Design Comes To Fruition

July 31 marks the anniversary of the murder of Juergen Ponto, chairman of West Germany's second largest bank, the Dresdner Bank.

In sharp contrast to the environment of terror which Ponto's assassination at the hands of a band of British-controlled terrorists brought on West Germany and Western Europe during the summer and fall of 1977, today, the "Ponto Plan" for economic industrialization of the Third World forms an important part of the Franco-German alliance for a Grand Design of peace through economic development.

As one official source in West Germany recently confirmed, Ponto's proposal for the intensification of European economic cooperation with both white and black African nations has been adopted as an integral part of West Germany's development policy. Specifically, Ponto was working with African leaders who foresaw the necessity for the leading nations of Africa — South Africa, Algeria, Nigeria, and the French-influenced Ivory Coast — to join their economic forces, with European assistance, to raise the rest of the continent out of its devastating poverty.

Ponto had been the leading figure in a European-wide attempt to join forces with the Soviet Union and the Arab nations to reorganize the international monetary system. The program they had designed was based on Ponto's assimilation of the 1975 International Development Bank proposal authored by U.S. Labor Party chairman Lyndon LaRouche.

Importantly, Ponto and his collaborators had begun to publicly emphasize that employment of South Africa's more highly educated and skilled white labor force as technicians and teachers in regions of black Africa would be a crucial phase in ending racial conflict throughout the continent.

Simultaneously, Ponto personally directed attempts by West German private banks to set up adequate financial facilities to back these proposals with European long-term investment in developing nations. The Dresdner Bank, especially its Luxembourg subsidiary, took a leading role in promoting gold as a private and central bank reserve medium, to generate the necessary liquidity to sustain long term finance.

Of course, today, remonetization of gold is the implied, immediate next step outlined by West German Chancellor Schmidt and French President Giscard to bring the European Monetary System, voted up at the July 7 European "Bremen" Summit, into implementation phase.

Ponto's activities at the Dresdner Bank were also highlighted by his support for East-West trade and European-wide nuclear energy development. The Dresdner Bank has issued multibillion-dollar loans to the Soviet Union to finance imports of West German goods. At the same time, it has publicly supported creation of a

European-wide bank specifically to finance nuclear power plant construction.

## *Who Was Ponto?*

What distinguished Ponto as a business leader was his grasp of economics as political policy formulation and cultural development of the working population. As a Catholic humanist, he was a protégé of the same Catholic humanists who backed the career of former Chancellor Adenauer against massive, and continuous, British opposition and destabilizations.

A close personal friend of Chancellor Schmidt, he not only advised Schmidt on economic policy but shared with him an intense preoccupation with universal culture — both music and philosophy.

Ponto was murdered by British intelligence, which used Baader-Meinhof terrorist networks as their conduit to cover their tracks, because uninterrupted fruition of his efforts would have immediately threatened London's influence, especially in Europe, as a financial and political force.

Unfortunately, Ponto's own greatest vulnerability was that he refused to admit how many intense enemies his

## Bonn's Stand Against Terror

*West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, French President Giscard, and their allies, the men who successfully created a European Monetary System, are keenly aware that Britain's professional terrorist killers will now be gunning for the EMS policy and its advocates. That is why, at the Bonn summit meeting, they forced through the toughest stand ever taken for government action against terrorism.*

*The accord, signed by leaders of West Germany, the United States, Britain, Canada, France, Italy, and Japan, will now be taken to their respective governments for ratification. It reads:*

*"The heads of state and government, concerned about terrorism and the taking of hostages, declare that their governments will intensify their joint efforts to combat international terrorism. To this end, in cases where a country refuses extradition or prosecution of those who have hijacked an aircraft and-or do not return such aircraft, the heads of state and government are jointly resolved that their governments shall take immediate action to halt all flights to those countries. At the same time, their governments will initiate action to halt incoming flights from that country's airlines that depart from any other country."*

humanist efforts had provoked against him. Naively, he maintained ongoing business relations with the core members of London's network — for example, the Rothschild-related Lambert family in Belgium. Simultaneously, he refused to publicize his behind-the-scenes diplomatic activities.

The extraordinary evidence of what he had been doing became public only after his death. Moreover, for several months, leading European security officials hesitated in blasting the British conspiracy responsible for his murder.

Following Ponto's death, a wave of brutal terrorism hit Europe for months, claiming leading West German industrialist Hanns-Martin Schleyer, former Italian Prime Minister Aldo Moro and several others as victims.

The British also did not fail to take into account the indispensable contribution which LaRouche had made to these beginning European efforts to build a Grand Design. Informed intelligence sources communicated to LaRouche in the days following Ponto's death that LaRouche's name had been found on the Baader-Meinhof "hit list." Only extraordinary security precautions, and

an international political mobilization directed against the British conspiracy, succeeded in preventing LaRouche's assassination during those months.

The successful July 7 Bremen summit, where the European Monetary System was declared, not accidentally, was accompanied by a barrage of attacks against Britain throughout the continental European press. Schmidt and Giscard had learned a lesson which now needs to be picked up, quickly, in the U.S.: It is impossible to put the world on a program for global economic recovery and technological progress, unless the forces behind the Grand Design deal a defeat to the London conspiracy which has regularly employed terror and war to prevent global economic growth.

At the July 16 Economic Summit attended by President Carter, Schmidt and Giscard successfully gained agreement on an international antiterrorist program. Since then, on July 27, *Il Fiorino*, Italy's leading financial daily, stated this lesson once again. The two major foreign policy mistakes Italy has made in the 20th century, it stated, were its alliance with Hitler in World War II, and its alliance today with London.