

EIR Special Report

Green fascism is on the rise again in Germany

by Susan Welsh

A fascist movement has emerged once again on German soil, under the banner of the “green” environmentalists and the self-styled peace movement.

As in the 1930s, today’s fascists aim to destroy the nation-state based on expanding industrial technology and replace it with a feudalist zero-growth society, a new Dark Age. The Nazi movement was fostered by British oligarchical circles who hoped to destroy the threat Germany and Russia represented to their geopolitical designs. So today the green fascist movement is nurtured and manipulated by those anti-progress Anglo-American factions best known as the supporters of Global 2000 and the Club of Rome. As we document, Die Grünen (the Green Ones), as the environmentalist/disarmament political party is called, are joining forces directly with such openly neo-Nazi forces in West Germany as the Nationaldemokratische Partei Deutschlands (NPD).

What does the new face of German fascism look like?

- Increasingly during the past year, West Berlin and the cities of West Germany have been hit with rioting by tens of thousands of disaffected youth organized into paramilitary squads. The riots often begin as purportedly “peaceful demonstrations” but the young punks carrying plastic bags filled with bottles, stones, and clubs wait until nightfall to begin wanton destruction.
- The Frankfurt International Airport, West Germany’s largest, was forced to close down Nov. 15 by a bloody demonstration of 150,000 people. Flaming barricades were set on highways for miles around, and a hard core of several hundred battled police at the “village” constructed on the projected site of a new runway for the airport. The demonstrators are demanding an end to the expansion of the airport—a project which the government of the State of Hesse defends as economically essential and ecologically acceptable. Molotov cocktails, stones, and clubs were hurled at police, and an elderly woman died when her car was trapped in a mob of rioters.
- Frankfurt mayor Walter Wallmann, a Christian Democrat, said in an interview with the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* Nov. 20 that developments



Violent demonstrations on Sept. 13, 1981, during the U.S. Secretary of State's visit to West Berlin.

in his city reminded him of the disintegration of democratic rule in the Weimar Republic, before Hitler took over.

- Hesse Governor Holger Börner, a Social Democrat, in a Nov. 15 interview with the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* described the greenies' legalistic arguments as "Nazi jargon" which reminded him of Josef Goebbels. The green fascists, including a wing of his own Social Democratic Party (SPD), have targetted Börner for ouster in the upcoming fall 1982 state elections. Börner is the most important ally of Chancellor Helmut Schmidt within the SPD, and Schmidt's only remaining ally among the states governed by the SPD; the other SPD governors are from the leftist Willy Brandt wing of the party. The fight in Hesse assumes unusual strategic significance, since if Börner is ousted or neutralized, it will be virtually impossible for the embattled Schmidt government to survive.

- As in Weimar Germany, the leading constituency-based political parties are disintegrating. The Social Democratic Party, which at its best has represented the interests of productive workers in a labor-industry alliance for the good of the nation, is on the verge of a split. The trade-union-based wing, Schmidt's support, is being assaulted by the left wing, which was gradually assimilated into the party by chairman Willy Brandt and deputy chairman Herbert Wehner. In the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) party, the traditional base among businessmen and conservatives is disenfranchised; the party's industrial and banking mentors have allowed its leadership to become dominated by the twin ideologies of

Friedmanism and the Club of Rome. The CDU's pro-growth base tended to support Schmidt during the 1980 federal election—an option that becomes more and more difficult for them as the leftist takeover of the SPD advances.

Die Grünen was established in the European Parliamentary elections of 1979. Headed by Petra Kelley, a former member of the World Federalists, and Carl Amery, it works closely with Aurelio Peccei through an institution called Ecoropa, the coordinating body for green parties in France, Italy, West Germany and other countries.

- Public meetings by pro-nuclear, pro-growth parties or groups are systematically subjected to harassment and violence by the green fascists, often in alliance with the German Communist Party (see below).

- World-renowned physicist Dr. Krafft Ehrlicke, during a tour of West Germany this month sponsored by the Fusion Energie Forum, in collaboration with the U.S. Fusion Energy Foundation, was repeatedly confronted by greenies who attempted to prevent him from speaking. Dr. Ehrlicke, a German-born scientist now living in California, reported to a New York audience Nov. 28 how deeply he had been saddened and angered to see the same madness he had witnessed as a youth in Berlin during the rise of the Nazi movement in 1929-31.

The instigators

The rise of green fascism is now apparent in various forms throughout Western Europe and the United States. Violent demonstrations like those in Frankfurt

and West Berlin have occurred in Amsterdam, Zürich, and other cities. In France, the government of President François Mitterrand itself is committed to the same ideology as the street-thug Grünen.

The mass European "peace movement" which has surfaced is systematically organized at the top by the Socialist International and the Club of Rome, the two major institutions which provide the ideological and political framework for the neo-fascist anti-technology movement.

From terror to fascism

It was after March 1981, when a series of leading U.S. radicals, including Richard Barnet of the Institute for Policy Studies and members of the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Defense Information toured Europe to set the stage for an "anti-Reagan" and "anti-NATO" turn in the green movement, that the environmentalists have become increasingly violent. In September, underground leaders of the RAF masterminded the attempt to assassinate Gen. Frederick J. Kroesen, Commander of the U.S. Army in Europe, Central Army Group. At the same time, military personnel and bases throughout West Germany were the targets of bombing and arson attacks.

In Frankfurt, reports of intimidation have been made to police by store owners who were warned by environmentalist groups that they would be vandalized unless they displayed signs opposing the expansion of the Frankfurt Airport.

Functioning as media spokesmen and funding conduits for green fascism are the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, based in London and headed by environmentalist E. P. Thompson; Pax Christi, also London-based, composed of Catholic and Protestant "liberation theologians" and a sponsor of forums and demonstrations against nuclear power and nuclear weapons; the Evangelische Kirche Deutschland (Lutheran Church of Germany), a center for SPD left environmentalists, including Erhard Eppler, and for support of the West Berlin squatters; and the Dutch Inter-Church Peace Council (IKV), headquartered in Amsterdam, which serves as international coordinator for both peace demonstrators and house occupations. Several thousand Dutch "squatters" have functioned as organizers for establishing the violence-prone, counter-cultural squatters' movements continentally.

According to law-enforcement sources in West Germany, the policy of Interior Minister Gerhard Baum in dealing with the protest groups and their allies in the house occupier "scene" has contributed to spreading anarchy and terror. Baum, who is member of the Free Democratic Party, coalition partners with Schmidt's SPD, has maintained a policy of a "long leash," i.e. not

arresting demonstrators and forbidding police to use force against demonstrators, even if protestors are armed.

From December to June 1981, the result of Baum's policy was a massive increase in areas directly controlled by "squatters"—anarchists who seize apartment buildings and declare free zones, which police are not permitted to enter. Attempts by state and city governments to clear occupied areas have resulted in riots.

By June 1981, the house occupier "scene" had expanded from an initial 100 apartment houses in West Berlin to "free zones" in more than 20 West German cities. Law enforcement experts outside the Interior Ministry have asserted that, contrary to Baum's own statements, the occupation zones are major centers for terrorist protection and recruitment.

Why West Germany?

It should be clear that in West Germany the green fascism phenomenon has a particular intensity and a special strategic importance. If West Germany succumbs to Die Grünen, if Chancellor Schmidt is defeated, then there will be no economic or political force in Western Europe that could successfully oppose the spread of green fascism.

Since the electoral defeat in May 1981 of Schmidt's ally, French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the situation has deteriorated sharply. Now Schmidt, alone among European heads of government, consistently represents a policy of war-avoidance and economic progress, rational versions of East-West détente, and high-technology development for both North and South. Should Schmidt's effort to draw Washington and Moscow toward an effective war-avoidance policy advance, the world may stand a chance of escaping nuclear holocaust. If Schmidt's mediation between the superpowers does not soon show results, however, the political fabric of his own country will be ripped apart and Schmidt himself will not survive.

The fall of Giscard did more than deprive Schmidt of an ally in foreign policy. One of the first moves of the Mitterrand government was to scrap Giscard's policy of restricting the movement of "green" punks and terrorists across French borders. Now the green fascists are able to travel freely from a demonstration against a nuclear power plant in France to a riot in Frankfurt or Hamburg.

While the green fascists are deployed by Schmidt's highly placed international political enemies, there are also reasons why some layers of the German youth population provide a fertile ground for such movements. Take the case of individuals drawn to the "peace movement" through opposition to NATO's decision to install U.S. medium-range missiles in West Germany.



Of course not all these people are fascists! Many are justifiably afraid that the deployment of those missiles will be the trip-wire for nuclear war, since the Soviet Union will be no more likely to tolerate U.S. nuclear missiles within a five-minute flight time of Moscow than the United States was ready to accept Soviet missiles in Cuba in 1962. Many Germans drawn to the peace movement reject that NATO decision as a violation of German national sovereignty, since the Federal Republic could be destroyed in a thermonuclear war initiated from its territory without so much as a by-your-leave from Washington.

An historical point of view

These justified concerns can be compared to the rage felt by the German population against the 1918 Treaty of Versailles. The brutal peace imposed by Great Britain upon Germany deprived the defeated nation of its army and its industry, forcing payment of enormous reparations. Only the 1922 Rapallo Treaty with Soviet Russia allowed Germany to survive economically. But the anger against Britain and its Versailles Treaty was manipulated by the Nazis, who used it to recruit bitter and disaffected youth to their ranks.

After the Second World War, Germany was once again humiliated and ravaged by the victorious powers—the British and their factional supporters in the other allied countries. The nation was occupied, divided, deprived of sovereignty, its industry smashed and its citizens told again and again that each one of them was personally responsible for the crimes of Hitler. Under Chancellor Konrad Adenauer after the war, the new Federal Republic was able to slowly regain some of its dignity and sovereignty as it rebuilt its industry. Under Chancellor Schmidt, the country has begun to find a sense of nationhood, a pride in the Federal Republic's role as a force for world peace and prosperity.

But the youth of today, born in the 1960s and 1970s, don't understand the pride their parents feel at having built a nation out of a rubblefield. These are the youth educated by the "reformed" school system introduced under Chancellor Willy Brandt (1969-74), which abolished the humanist classical tradition in German education. Instead of learning the excitement of scientific discovery and the inspiration of German classical literature and music, today's youth are taught about "limits to growth" and an existentialist literature of despair. Add to this a growing consumption of drugs in the Federal Republic and an economic crisis worldwide, and it is easy to see how a new fascist movement can arise again in Germany—seemingly overnight.

At a Sept. 1, 1981 anti-war demonstration of 20,000 in West Berlin: Weimar revisited.