

Are Kohl and the Christian Democrats (CDU) really what they are taken for—"unswervable allies of the United States"? One of Chancellor Kohl's favorite CDU politicians, the party's spokesman on disarmament questions, Jürgen Todenhoefer, recently proposed "new levels of talks to be established . . . which would allow including the question of the French and British missiles in future negotiations"—one of Moscow's demands.

Todenhoefer used a radio interview several weeks ago to launch the idea of a "referendum on such fundamental questions as: Should we maintain the alliance with the Americans? or: Shall the Federal Republic remain within NATO?" A plebiscite on NATO is what SPD Jacobins like Oskar Lafontaine have been calling for.

Groups of "Christian Democrats Against Rearmament" have surfaced, calling for resistance against the stationing of the U.S. missiles. Attempting to resemble a spontaneous grassroots movement, this "Christian Democratic Peace Movement" is centered around the Jesuit strongholds of Tübingen and Münster, and it is gaining very prominent support from leading CDU figures. The ministers of health and of labor in Kohl's cabinet, Heiner Geissler and Norbert Blüm, have welcomed the "movement," as has the éminence grise of the Ruhr CDU, Kurt Biedenkopf. A former aide to Blüm, Herbert Metzger, is actually one of the key organizers of these Christians for peace. Two of the most prominent members of the solidarist workers' movement of the CDU, the deputy chairman of the German Postal Workers Union, Klaus-Dieter Zemlin, and the deputy chairman of the West German Federation of Labor (DGB), Gustav Fehrenbach, have signed the founding principles of this "CDU peace movement." And the acting minister of German-German relations in Chancellor Kohl's cabinet, Heinrich Windelen, a CDU member, is protecting the "movement" in his own party district.

In view of these developments, a big question mark hangs over the vote the West German parliament, the Bundestag, will hold on the stationing Nov. 21. Ironically, this vote, originally called for by the SPD and the Green Party on the missile question, was upgraded to a "vote on the future of the Western Alliance" by none other than the president of the Bundestag, Rainer Barzel—and he is a member of the CDU leadership, too! Observers of the West German domestic situation speculate that the vote might turn up "defectors from NATO" among the CDU's parliamentary ranks. This would make Chancellor Kohl's government more than shaky.

It may well be, under these circumstances, that the "hot autumn" will ring the deathknell for Kohl's government, especially given the predicted "winter of rising unemployment." There are enough reasons for Moscow's Yuri Andropov to feel amused by these West German developments: Without resorting to tanks, he can rely on the self-destructive drive in the SPD and the CDU, which seem to have no other aim than turning the Federal Republic of Germany from America's most important European ally into Moscow's new pawn on the world chessboard.

Soviet propaganda: a return to anti-Semitism

by Edith Vitali

With his insults against President Reagan, issued in a statement to *Pravda* following Reagan's speech in front of the United Nations General Assembly, Yuri Andropov publicly identified himself with the hate campaign against anything "Western" which has become increasingly characteristic of Soviet propaganda following their shooting of a civilian Korean airliner on Sept. 1. Implying that the United States acts like Hitler's Germany, Andropov warned that people who had attempted to undermine the Soviet Union in the past, had ended up on "the garbage heap of history." For the first time, he mentioned the KAL massacre, calling it "a sophisticated provocation, masterminded by U.S. special services," and "an example of extreme adventurism in politics." So much for those who had been waiting for an apology by the Soviet leadership!

His rejection of Reagan's new offer for the INF Euro-missile negotiations in Geneva proves that the Soviets don't take these talks seriously, but has kept them alive—and a Soviet walkout is impending—long enough to exploit them for propagandistic attacks on U.S. policy and whip up anti-American ferment in Western Europe. The past two years, he claimed, had proven that the United States was not ready to reach an agreement. "Their task is different—to play for time and then start the deployment in Western Europe of ballistic Pershing II and long-range cruise missiles. They don't even try to conceal this."

The Soviet generals, meanwhile, are preparing for "countermeasures." In a TASS interview, the Chief of the General Staff, Marshal Ogarkov, implied that the Soviet Union has the technology to send submarines equipped with nuclear missiles directly facing the U.S. coast, that is, the technology they have been testing off the coast of Sweden. As the West

German *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* and *Der Spiegel* detailed in late September, the land-based SS-20 stationed in Siberia can reach cities on the American West Coast, if they are equipped with only one warhead.

In an Oct. 5 article, the Soviet weekly *Literaturnaya Gazeta*, fast becoming a war propaganda sheet, called Reagan the successor of Adolf Hitler and instructed Soviet writers to mobilize with World War II slogans against the American President.

Yepishev on anti-Western crusade

One of the dirtiest figures spearheading the anti-Western campaign is Gen. Aleksei Yepishev, head of the Main Political Administration of the Armed Forces. In an article for the Bulgarian army paper *Narodna Armiya* on Sept. 15, he wrote that Hitler and Reagan are comparable, and that the West's designs today are similar to the "aggressive goals of Hitler's fascist Germany." The Korean airplane's appearance in Soviet airspace was "directed by the White House, whose master, in his pathological hatred of the Soviet Union and of our people, certainly outdid himself on this occasion."

Yepishev implied that the "unmistakable class stance" of the Soviet Union justifies the shooting of hostile capitalist civilians. He calls for "irreconcilability toward bourgeois ideology, as well as toward any kind of hostile manifestations of the aggressive forces. . . . We must train soldiers in a spirit of resolute hatred against the imperialist aggressors."

Western experts believe Yepishev is the controller of Soviet military counterintelligence, overseeing contacts with the Nazi International as well as terrorist operations around the world.

His career in the Soviet hierarchy has been accompanied by the darkest episodes in the history of Russian anti-Semitism. In his reign as Deputy Minister of State Security from 1951 to 1953 falls the infamous Slansky trial, when 14 leaders of the Czech Communist Party, most of them Jews, were sentenced as "agents of a world-Zionist conspiracy," and 11 of them were executed. Under his reign also falls the so-called "Doctors' Plot" in 1953, when Jewish doctors from Leningrad were arrested on charges of plotting to poison and kill Stalin and other leaders.

While Lavrentii Beria, the head of the then powerful Ministry of Internal Affairs—which at that time coordinated the security services—was purged and executed in 1953, Yepishev was never touched. He found refuge in the foreign ministry, subsequently served as ambassador in Romania and Yugoslavia, and in April 1962, following the visit of Andrei Gromyko to Belgrade, was brought back to Moscow to become head of the Red Army's Main Political Directorate—quite a jump upstairs—which he has headed ever since.

Yepishev's rise at the beginning of the 1950s had coincided with the ascendance of Khrushchev. His comeback to the command posts of Kremlin power occurred shortly before the Cuban Missile Crisis, in the context of a large military

shake-up involving the replacement of three marshals. Khrushchev was dumped the next year, but Yepishev stayed.

Soviet emigré Kremlin-watcher Mikhail Agursky writes in a recent two-part article in the Paris-based exile paper *Russkaya Mysl* (Russian Thought) that Yepishev was the key pusher for the invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968, one of his reasons being to prevent the rehabilitation of the Slansky trial victims, which would have brought his own dirty role to the fore. Subsequently, in September 1968, he launched a major anti-Semitic campaign in Russia which reverberated in Poland.

At that time, *Pravda* commentator Yuri Zhukov wrote that the "Prague Spring" was the work of Zionist reaction. In 1969, Yu. Ivanov, collaborator of the Central Committee's International Department, published a book *Caution, Zionism*, followed by Evgenii Yevseyev's book, *Fascism Under the Blue Star*.

Official anti-Semitism resurges

Coinciding with Brezhnev's demise and the reshuffles in the Soviet leadership which are far from over, anti-Semitism has been on the rise again. Anti-Semitism, of course, has always been part of the darkest side of Russian culture, represented by such blood-and-soil writers as Fyodor Dostoyevski who was close to the Russian Orthodox Church, and whose writings have been republished in the Soviet Union starting in 1968. It is one aspect of an imperial, xenophobic, anti-Western outlook. By the maniacs adhering to this outlook, the Jews have been called "cosmopolitans" who spearhead "bourgeois reaction."

The recent escalation of anti-Semitism was marked by the formation of an "Anti-Zionist Committee" under General Dragunski; the publication of Lev Korneyev's book *The Class Nature of Zionism*; and a flurry of articles in the Soviet press, including newspapers for children such as *Pionerskaya Pravda*, attacking Israel and the Jews for every conceivable evil in the world. The most notorious article appeared in *Red Star* on Aug. 17, which attacked the "Jewish world bourgeoisie."

The fact that the Yepishev crowd, which overlaps the KGB, military intelligence, the army, and the party, is on the upswing, is also manifest in the increasing pressure on the Eastern European allies of the U.S.S.R. to cut "Western" links, and reorient toward Mother Russia. The latest issue of *New Times*, a Soviet foreign ministry publication, attacks the Polish leadership for being too "pluralistic" and "Western-oriented."

Unfortunately, says a recent article in the Polish magazine *Reality* (co-founded by KGB asset Stefan Olszowski), some people in Poland might be convinced that Poland is part of West European civilization, and expect liberation from Russian domination by the Americans. But, the article warns, they should keep in mind that American missiles will kill "Polish Übermensch" and "Russian Untermensch" alike.