

Democracy, said, "It is like 1932—the country's fate is at stake." And Hermann von Schaubert, the director of the Free Democratic think tank, the Thomas Dehler Foundation, even went public with the remarkable statement: "The Greens are the new fascists!"

His own party chairman, Foreign Minister Genscher, treacherously went to the press the day after to downplay von Schaubert's statements.

The decoupling threat

Even at NATO headquarters in Brussels, people have exhibited some courage and started to break the regime of silence imposed by the appeasement-minded Secretary-General Peter Carrington, an advocate of "Europeanizing" (i.e., decoupling) NATO. Worried military officials "leaked" their concern to journalists over the "change of the general political climate in West Germany against NATO and the presence of U.S. troops." According to these leaks, "traditionalist" circles at NATO worry that if the West German authorities and the Bonn government continue to fail to guarantee the free military exercise and daily functioning of NATO, the Americans might be compelled by their own decouplers to withdraw troops from West Germany. If the country's institutions fail to guarantee the lives of U.S. soldiers and the safety of U.S. installations, these sources warn, certain political forces in the United States might soon be all too willing to pull out of West Germany, if not from all of Western Europe. Moscow, which is encouraging and funding the movement against the Americans, would earn the optimum profit from such a development.

The campaign of anti-American hatred promoted by the SPD-Green bloc reached a nadir in the Sept. 29 issue of the SPD party weekly, *Vorwaerts*, which ran a full page review of a new anti-American play, "Judith," by the infamous Jacobin, Rolf Hochhuth. Here is how *Vorwaerts* reviews it:

"Judith, a drama, discusses the question of whether it wouldn't be better to assassinate American President Ronald Reagan before he can launch World War III. . . ."

Portraying the recent protest actions against the NATO maneuvers as most inefficient, *Vorwaerts* adds the revealing statement: "Deeds alone will be recognized and taken seriously by the powerful." The article, authorized by *Vorwaerts* editor Egon Bahr (co-architect with Henry Kissinger of the early 1970s "opening to the East" diplomacy) and thus by the SPD leadership, concludes with the cynical remark that the author of this new play, which will be read by the "movement" over the coming weeks, Rolf Hochhuth, "has not tried to get into the White House to assassinate the American President."

These formulations need no further comment: Resembling the political mind-set and the criminal methods of the Nazis and Communists of the Weimar period, the SPD-Green alliance will not hesitate to eliminate any politician who stands in their way. Even if it is the U.S. President.

Egypt tells Reagan to dump Kissinger

by Thierry Lalevée

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak sent a private letter to President Reagan at the beginning of October, urging him to "break with Kissinger's [Middle East] policies, the London-based Saudi newspaper *As Sharq al Awsat* reports. Sources linked to Egyptian intelligence services tell us that one of the key topics of discussion at the Oct. 9 meeting between Mubarak and Jordan's King Hussein was how to convince the U.S. President not to bring Kissinger back into Mideast shuttle diplomacy in a second Reagan administration. Mubarak and Hussein are reported to be drafting a new peace formula for recommendation to the United States, including their conditions for negotiations with Israel and how they could get the Palestine Liberation Organization to join in.

Kissinger, of course, has never been much appreciated in the Arab world or in Israel either; it was he who committed the United States never to negotiate with the PLO, and the Israelis remember the dirty tricks he has played on them. But when the issue of Kissinger's role becomes a number one topic of negotiations between Washington and Mideastern heads of state, it signifies major moves afoot. Not only in Egypt are top officials worried that Kissinger may stage a spectacular comeback after the U.S. elections. The governments of Egypt, Jordan, and other countries of the region are trying to influence Reagan's decision while there is still time, and are determined not to be sacrificed on the altar of Kissinger's "New Yalta" negotiations between Washington and Moscow.

Crackdown against the Cairo mafia

Mubarak's unprecedented intervention on the Kissinger question can only be understood by looking at the ferocious battle now underway in Cairo between the government and the forces out to destabilize it, described by one observer as "the biggest mafia Egypt ever had." This consists of the old private banking families from Alexandria and Cairo who have resurfaced since 1976, and the Egyptian agents of the International Monetary Fund who, if they had their way, would stop all industrial projects and kill off half the population. This mafia includes many of Kissinger's friends, with his local representative, U.S. Ambassador Nicholas Velyotes, serving as the point-man for State Department destabilization of the Mubarak government.

The IMF and its Egyptian agents are demanding that all

government subsidies be removed from such vital commodities as bread, flour, and gasoline. Government subsidies for oil and gasoline were the official pretext given by the energy divisions of the IMF and World Bank for sabotaging Egypt's nuclear program; they, along with the State Department's Agency for International Development (AID) went from one international company to another telling them to stop work on Egypt's nuclear projects, since "there will not be one single cent forthcoming from international consortia."

This is the context for the recent decision by Minister for Economy Dr. Mustafa al Saeed to increase the authority of the government over the private banking sector. On Sept. 24, the general prosecutor ordered that no fewer than 18 bankers and stockbrokers be prevented from leaving the country and that their properties be seized. Some were immediately jailed, others placed under house arrest. These banks were directly involved in black market operations and dollar speculation, aiming at the bankruptcy of the public sector and the government. Bypassing official channels, these banks had an easy game, offering a better rate to the dollar, and thereby drawing most, if not all, foreign currencies away from the public sector-controlled banks.

Targeted are the following Egyptian and international banks: **Jammal Trust Bank** of Lebanon, whose chairman, Ali Abdallah Jammal, has been under house arrest for months; **Al Ahram Bank**, which is now under control of the Central Bank of Egypt. Earlier, the Cairo branch of the **Arab-African Bank** was proven to be deeply involved in black-market speculative activities. Perhaps more significant were the activities of the **Faycal Islamic Bank** and the **Bank for Commerce and Credit International (BCCI)**. Belonging to a worldwide network of Islamic banks created in the early 1970s by the Saudi royal family and directed by Prince Muhammed al Faycal, the Faycal Islamic Bank was not only involved in black-market activities, but also in channeling money to underground fundamentalist groups such as the Al Jihad terrorists who were arrested in May. The same was true also for the BCCI, the Cairo branch of the international bank led by Pakistani banker Agha Hassan Abedi, whose name surfaced more than once during the Propaganda-2 (P-2) Freemasonic scandal in Italy two years ago. Apart from Abedi's masonic connections, he is known for his close allegiance to the IMF and World Bank, through his London-based Third World Foundation.

What binds the Egyptian "mafia" to broader international interests, including those of Kissinger and his friends, are freemasonic and similar ties which have been allowed to re-emerge in Egypt, one of the outcomes of the "Open door" (*Infatih*) policy introduced in the mid-1970s. Of special importance is the new activity around the old Phoenician lodge, created during the last century in Beirut, then exiled to Chicago when the Ottomans denounced it as a cover for intelligence operations! According to some observers, this reactivation led to the Camp David agreement, which has been described as a "Mediterranean Freemasonic deal." Evidence

for this hypothesis can be found when the secondary personalities as well as the economic consequences of the treaty are looked at very carefully. Certainly those interests connected to the P-2 lodge, those running the Mideast drug traffic, benefited from the treaty, which linked up the Golden Crescent drug-producing regions of Asia to Lebanon and Egypt via Israel. These were the people who ordered Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's assassination in September 1981 when, timidly, he began to disturb the mafia's operations. The same interests are today training would-be-assassins against President Mubarak.

The Egyptian government is well aware of these plots, and this is indeed the rationale behind its decision to clamp down on its black-market economy, as well as behind its attacks against Kissinger and company. But in order to destroy the mafia and not just wound it, the Cairo government will have to tackle the thorny issue of the Import-Export law, passed under the *Infatih* policy, which makes it unnecessary to declare the origin of dollars used either for investment or for importing. This law has provided an ideal cover for laundering of dirty money; to change it would endanger Egypt's ability to attract badly needed foreign investments.

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This makes it a straight-out political question, whether or not Egypt's nominal ally, the United States, is ready to stand by its side and support it against Kissinger's mafia. This is a very practical question, as riots have hit Egyptian cities in protest against the austerity demanded by the IMF. The only solution is to raise the standard of living and buying power of the population, which can only be done if the government has the financial means to run the national economy. This means putting an end to such fiefdoms as a Freemasonic mafia passing itself off as the "private sector," or the IMF and AID trying to develop their own "planning" of the Egyptian economy, against the efforts of the Egyptian government. The ball is now in President Reagan's court, and the alternative to a U.S. policy shift is the rapid further destabilization of Egypt and the installation of a Khomeini-style dictatorship there.