
Federal Republic of Germany

Soviets favor a 'red-green dawn'

by Edith Vitali

The Soviet news media are no longer concealing their desire to see a "Red-Green" coalition come to power in West Germany in the near future, taking that nation out of the Atlantic Alliance and into the sphere of the Soviet empire. In a December issue (no. 52) of the Soviet foreign policy magazine *New Times*, Bonn correspondent A. Tolpegin editorialized in favor of such a new government in Bonn, a coalition between the Social Democrats and the neo-Nazi Green Party based on opposition to NATO.

According to opinion polls cited by Tolpegin, if national elections were held tomorrow, the Free Democrats, coalition partner of Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democrats, would probably not receive 5% of the vote, the minimum for obtaining any seats in the Bundestag. "In that case," he observes, "the Social Democratic and Green parties would gain a majority."

"With the present alignment of forces, the SPD and the Green Party have a chance to win a majority in the Bundestag. If they agreed to cooperate, this would mean a big shift to the left in West German politics." Tolpegin looks hopefully at the local elections coming up in North Rhine-Westphalia and the Saar in spring 1985 for this scenario to begin to become a reality.

A big shift in Soviet media coverage of the Green Party occurred during that party's Hamburg congress. Radio Moscow's coverage hailed the Greens for having conquered "firm positions" on the German political landscape, and hailed Green leader Rudolf Bahro as the "man with the greatest intellectual potential." The same Bahro, an East German "defector," told the assembled Greens at that conference that they would come to power by following the model of Hitler's Nazi Party!

While endorsing these dangerous new Nazis, the Soviet media have been attacking the current government in Bonn for "protecting" and "encouraging" "militarists, neo-Nazis and revanchists."

In Soviet terminology, "revanchists" are the exile-organizations of Silesians, Sudeten Germans, East Prussians, and others whose "homelands" are now part of or under the jurisdiction of the Soviet Union, Poland, and Czechoslovakia. The wild fiction of these pensioners in their 60s and 70s, equipped with nuclear weapons and overrunning Eastern Europe accompanied by the Bundeswehr and U.S. Army, be-

came predominant in Soviet publications during the summer of 1984, to the accompaniment of the biggest Soviet military maneuvers of the postwar period in East Germany.

Beyond the "revanchists," the "Nazification" of Germany has gone much further if you believe the Soviet press these days. Both *Red Star* and *Izvestia* have featured attacks on the West German intelligence service (BND), which supposedly is about to introduce "totalitarian surveillance on the model of the Third Reich" and collaborates closely with the South African secret service. The West German budget for 1985 allegedly reflects the increasing "militarization" of the economy, *Izvestia* charged in a separate article.

"The neo-fascists, who feel very comfortable in the atmosphere of the 'spiritual turn' to the right which West German ruling circles brought about, conduct their dangerous propaganda without any obstacles," TASS reported from Bonn. A German television program which mildly criticized the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan immediately became a major target of Russian calumnies. According to TASS, this program was "penetrated with the germs of revanchism," and in general, exemplary of the "growth of the revanchist, militarist, and neo-fascist tendencies which receive support from part of the ruling circles and reactionary propagandists."

The worst "revanchist" and "militarist" organization of all in Soviet eyes is . . . the Schiller Institute, founded in West Germany and the United States by Helga Zepp-La-Rouche in May 1983 for the principal purpose of saving the Western Alliance. Admittedly, the Schiller Institute is one of the few, if not the only institution in the West which has been very outspoken about the growing Soviet military threat.

On Dec. 29, the Soviet military daily *Red Star*, in a year-end review called "Hopes and Worries," attacked unnamed "West German revanchists" who asserted during 1984 that "the Russians allegedly plan to attack the Federal Republic of Germany. 'Will the Russians attack in 1984?' they asked. And they asserted: 'They are to attack for sure,' 'they will reach the Rhine within 48 hours,' and 'they will raise the red banner over Bonn.' But the year 1984 is over. Bonn is still in its place, nobody is planning to touch it. Embarrassing for the slanderers! It's not the first, and, we are convinced, also not the last time."

Few outside the Schiller Institute said or did anything around the threat of a Soviet surprise attack on West Germany, a danger which was at its peak during the second half of August 1984, and is again rising as a threat implicit in Politburo member Mikhail Gorbachov's three-months ultimatum to the United States to stop the Strategic Defense Initiative.

Following Soviet logic, the need for a surprise attack on West Germany will decrease only if the country breaks from the United States voluntarily. That would be most likely if the violently anti-American Green Party became the coalition partner of an increasingly anti-NATO Social Democratic Party.