

The pitfalls of the current explosion of 'spook wars'

by Criton Zoakos

Increasingly since May of this year, an intense war among intelligence services is being waged which, judging from the morsels of information reaching the surface of publicity, must be one of the most bloody and intense ever fought. The latest news from this front prominently includes the spectacular defection to East Germany of West Germany's chief counter-intelligence officer, Hans-Joachim Tiedge, and the highly emotional revelations of KGB usage of "spy dust" chemicals to track American diplomats.

The Soviet government daily *Izvestia* claimed that the "spy dust" scandal was a figment of the CIA's imagination, circulated for the purpose of derailing the scheduled Reagan-Gorbachov summit in November. In the days prior to the eruption of the "spy dust" affair, the U.S. government had announced its decision to resume anti-satellite (ASAT) tests, successfully test-fired one MX missile from inside an ICBM silo, and announced that the Geneva arms talks would collapse unless the Soviet Union "drastically changed its attitude toward the Strategic Defense Initiative."

The context in which these moves are made has been increasingly shaped by bloody violence. Since May, it has included murders and beatings of American uniformed personnel in East Berlin by Soviet soldiers; cold-blooded assassinations of American soldiers in West Germany by GRU-deployed terrorist teams of the Red Army Faction (Baader-Meinhof Gang); bombings of American military installations; assassinations of American-allied figures and other pro-Western influentials by KGB- and GRU-run Libyan and Syrian killer squads; cultivation of riot and destabilization schemes in numerous U.S.-allied nations such as the Philippines, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey. The landscape around the globe has been slippery with blood.

However, the current intelligence war in West Germany and France, should be seen in context of the specific fight between U.S. and Soviet rival agencies to control the outcome of the "arms-control" negotiations and the Reagan-

Gorbachov summit.

The Aug. 20 "defection" of Tiedge, who was in charge of all West German counter-espionage activities against East German infiltration efforts, came in the context of the "disappearance" of numerous other East German spies who had already infiltrated key sensitive positions in West Germany's national security institutions. Promptly upon Tiedge's "defection," NATO and other Western officials claimed the event to be a "major blow" to Western security, causing "extensive damage," and so forth.

From the circumstantial context, it is evident that Tiedge did not "defect" but rather was close to being exposed, or probably had been exposed and was running for his life. His confederates who are reported to have "disappeared," with their current whereabouts unknown, may or may not have also "defected to the East." It is virtually certain that, whether they disappeared in the East or somewhere in the West, in both instances their real role had somehow become known to Western intelligence agencies.

Is there in progress a large-scale operation to ferret out senior East bloc infiltrators and agents from Western agencies? Was Tiedge a victim of such an operation? Will West Germany's Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher also fall victim of this operation? Why was Genscher in Syria, of all places, on the day that East German radio announced Tiedge's "defection"? Will other senior West German politicians, such as Richard Burt's friends Horst Ehmke and Egon Bahr, succumb to a similar fate?

Then take the case of France: As part of the Socialist President François Mitterrand's preparations to receive Soviet party chief Mikhail Gorbachov in Paris in October, the head of the French counterintelligence organization, DST, was fired from his position on the grounds that he was excessive in his anti-Soviet zeal and would thus have been an affront to the distinguished visitor from Moscow. After this, the "Rainbow Warrior" scandal broke out in France, which

eventually may prove fatal to both Mitterrand and to Gorbachov's visit to France: French military intelligence officers allegedly blew up in New Zealand the Greenpeace flagship "Rainbow Warrior," which was about to sail into the French nuclear-testing area in the Pacific in order to prevent any further scheduled French nuclear tests. New Zealand's Socialist Prime Minister David Lange called the act "just short of a declaration of war." President Mitterrand ordered a sweeping investigation and review of the French intelligence services. The ousted director of the DST published a lengthy report providing information that the Greenpeace organization is not really an environmentalist group at all, but a highly sophisticated technological espionage organization run jointly by Soviet and British intelligence.

Will Mitterrand's intelligence adviser, Regis Debray, be able to refute the DST's charges against Greenpeace? What will the implications be if he does? Or if he fails to?

During the beginning phase of the French intelligence scandal, the following remarkable episode occurred in the Paris International Airport: A consignment of approximately 40 copies of *EIR*'s glossy, 368-page "Global Showdown" report, shipped from Wiesbaden, West Germany, was held up by French customs authorities for about a week. Customs claimed that the report included remarks which were disparaging to M. Regis Debray, a French government official. In

the course of *EIR*'s efforts to recover the consignment, a "higher authority" claimed that the report, if it circulated in France, would have damaging effects upon the upcoming visit of Gorbachov.

Eventually, "Global Showdown," which was already listed as official reading material in a number of West European parliamentary committees and military staffs, was allowed to go through French customs. Subsequently, the influential Paris daily *Le Monde* published a major, complimentary review of "Global Showdown," as did numerous other French publications.

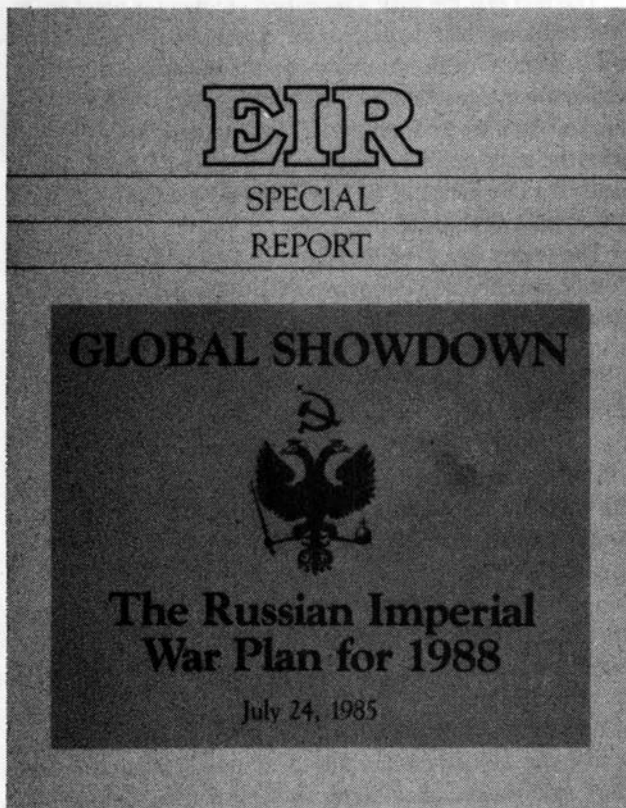
Also, *Le Monde*-associated French military analyst Michel Tatu, a personage of some weight in NATO circles, arrived at a Geneva conference on the Soviet Union to uphold the basic findings of *EIR*'s "Global Showdown" report.

The conference was organized by Rev. Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church, and its subject was "The Decline of the Soviet Union." It included some 250 "specialists" and argued that the West should support the Soviet nationalist officers corps, most notably Marshal Ogarkov's faction, against the Communist Party leadership, suggesting that there is a difference between the two (see "Conference Report," pages 30-34). We shall come back to this later.

First, we note that the recent spy scandals in France and Germany were preceded by the following little-noticed episodes: During late May, the First Secretary of the Soviet embassy in Athens disappeared from the face of the earth, and was said to have defected to the United States; in mid-June, the First Secretary of the Soviet embassy in Rome vanished and was said to have defected to the United States; at approximately the same time, a senior Soviet scientist by the name of V. Aleksandrov, the inventor of the pseudo-theory of "nuclear winter," disappeared from the face of the earth and was said to have defected to the West. All three men are reputed to have extensive knowledge of Soviet covert operations in Western Europe.

Then suddenly, a TWA passenger plane was hijacked from Athens to Beirut, and a new hostage crisis began to unfold. American, Syrian, and Soviet authorities concealed from the world that among the hijacked passengers were no fewer than five senior American intelligence officers. During that period, Vice-President George Bush, a former director of the CIA, then visiting Europe, stated that he would spare no efforts to free the hostages. It will be recalled that those hostages were freed simultaneously with an announcement from Moscow and Washington that a "breakthrough" agreement had been reached, to hold a summit between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachov in late November.

Does the information supplied by the defected Soviet diplomats have anything to do with the subsequent intelligence shakeups in Paris and Bonn? And with the Moonie conference in Geneva? Did the circulation of the *EIR*'s "Global Showdown" report influence the latest turn of events around the scheduled Reagan-Gorbachov summit? We intend to supply partial answers to these questions in next week's issue.



EIR's Special Report: The French are afraid it will wreck the upcoming visit of Mikhail Gorbachov. And they are not the only ones who are scrambling.