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## Could Germany Be the 'Next Philippines'?

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# The anatomy of the impending overthrow of the Kohl government

by George Gregory

In all likelihood, the "Flick Affair," the domestic West German political party-financing scandal, will trigger the overthrow of Helmut Kohl, chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, within the next two to three weeks.

Like the "Watergating" of Richard Nixon, with which the scandal against Kohl's government is compared in the Federal Republic, the overthrow of the chancellor is driven by a combination of "inside-outside" treason. On the outside, in this case, there is the agreement—by no means merely passive—between the U.S. State Department, the Trilateral Commission, and the Soviet-Russian leadership in Moscow, to usher in an all-party emergency austerity government to manage the disengagement of the United States from West Germany and Western Europe.

While *EIR* is in a privileged position to know the background of the warfare raging over the fate of Germany, and the Kohl government, the evaluation outlined here is not unique to *EIR*. Our knowledge is chiefly drawn from political, military, and other circles active in patriotic resistance to the sell-out of their own nation, predominantly those overtly or covertly supporting the movement of the "Patriots for Germany," founded by Helga Zepp-LaRouche.

The "Flick Affair" has been the subject of court proceedings in the Federal Republic for just over two years. The Friedrich Flick Industrial Holding company was sold for cash in fall 1985 to the powerful Deutsche Bank, and its over 25% stake in W. R. Grace company in the United States formally dissolved, although policy collaboration with W. R. Grace continues. Playboy Friedrich Karl Flick has run off to marry a sister of Gloria von Thurn und Taxis, of the degenerate Regensburg princely family through which U.S. Ambassador Richard Burt has cultivated social standing and political operations in West Germany.

Three years ago, tax-evasion investigations were begun in Bonn against a party-financing and money-laundering firm, the "Staatsbürgerliche Vereinigung," which pumped money into the Christian Democratic Union (CDU). The inquiry was instigated by Otto Schily, ex-defense attorney for West German terrorists, including members of the Red Army Faction,

which murdered Supreme Court judge Bubach, industrialist Hans-Martin Schleyer, and banker Jürgen Ponto in 1977. Schily is now a leading parliamentarian of the West German Green Party.

The Flick family holding company turned up having financed all of the established West German parties, CDU, its sister Christian Social Union (CSU) in Bavaria, the liberal Free Democrats (FDP), and the Social Democrats (SPD) as well. With so many loaded guns going off in the crowded room of implicated party money-launderers, the East German communists' financing for the Green Party was conveniently ignored. The U.S. ambassador at the time, Arthur Burns, was cultivating the Greens and their respectability in Washington. The State Department's Kissingerians at the European Desk, the Trilateral Commission, the Georgetown Center for Strategic and International Studies, the Aspen Institute's Institute for Contemporary German Studies, and The German Marshall Fund under J. J. McCloy, Jr. and ex-SPD chancellor Willy Brandt, were promoting the careers of Greens like Petra Kelly.

In early summer 1985, Eberhard von Brauchitsch, former manager of Flick Holding, testified that Helmut Kohl's hands were also not clean. One early victim of the scandal, former FDP economics minister Otto Graf Lambsdorff, a member of the Trilateral Commission, repeatedly told reporters, "All I can say is Kohl, Mainz." It seemed then as if Von Brauchitsch and Lambsdorff were merely having their revenge. In July 1985, Chancellor Kohl testified that he was not involved in the financial affairs of his CDU party.

Schily waited until Feb. 18, 1986, to initiate a State Prosecutor's investigation against Helmut Kohl to determine whether grounds exist to indict the chancellor on charges of having perjured himself during the parliamentary hearings on the "Flick Affair" early last summer. Court probes along the lines of a Grand Jury fishing expedition, have begun in Helmut Kohl's home state of Rhineland Palatinate.

Green parliamentarian Schily had agreements with the U.S. State Department, Moscow, and CDU officials, including some very close to pro-Russian factions of German in-

dustry, particularly the Trilateral Commission crowd, to wait for a "paradigm shift" to ripen before springing the trap on Chancellor Kohl. The domestic scandal-mongering is purely a pretext to consolidate those agreements. Helmut Kohl's record shows that he is not opposed to those agreements as such; but what the chancellor himself is the least likely to comprehend, is why many of his friends have decided that the conditions under which these agreements can be implemented—a government crisis—require that he offer himself as sacrificial lamb. Compromises with his FDP Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher and the "Genscherites" in his own CDU have turned Kohl into his own ideal victim.

The day after Otto Schily launched his demand for a prosecutor's investigation of Kohl, Heiner Geissler blurted out in a televised debate with Schily that the chancellor "must have had a blackout," when he claimed ignorance of the money-laundering practices of the CDU. Geissler is an infamous Jesuit party axe-man, in the "Kohl-mafia" since the present chancellor was minister-president of Rhineland Palatinate. The chief-of-staff of the Bonn chancellery, Schäuble, told journalists that Geissler's "explanation" could not possibly be correct, because Kohl had professed his ignorance at the beginning of the July 1985 hearings session, "and not at the end of the day when he might have had a lapse of memory."

On Feb. 24, the weekly leak-sheet for Genscher's foreign ministry, *Der Spiegel*, issued a report of an emergency strategy discussion between the CDU minister-president of Lower Saxony, Ernst Albrecht, who faces defeat in state elections in June, state party chairman Wilfried Hasselman, and Trilateral member Walter Leissler Kiep. The conclusion, as *Der Spiegel* reported it, was that Helmut Kohl had to step down, because he was becoming an albatross around the neck of the CDU's electoral future. Federal elections are in early 1987.

Opinion polls report, that the first contours of the new government decided upon have already become "public opinion." Sixty-one percent of the population wants Kohl's resignation, and 41% wants CDU Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg as the new chancellor.

### **Parallel to Philippines sell-out**

Helmut Kohl became chancellor in fall 1982, when it became clear that Chancellor Helmut Schmidt did not have the support of his SPD to implement NATO's "Two-Track Resolution" to install Pershing II and Cruise missiles. Kohl became chancellor to solve the domestic political crisis in West Germany, which threatened to undermine the integrity of the policy of the Alliance.

As our sources report, "Just as U.S. policy changed toward the Philippines," against U.S. interests, "so it has also changed toward West Germany and Western Europe." The State Department convinced Ronald Reagan to accept Gorbachov's Jan. 15 offer to begin withdrawing SS-20 missiles from the "European zone" of the U.S.S.R. in exchange for

pulling Pershing II and Cruise missiles out of Europe, an "offer" which contained nothing new in the realm of arms control but was launched as a huge propaganda offensive to drive a wedge between Europe and the United States, as *EIR* has demonstrated. Politically, Reagan's positive nod to Gorbachov's "Plan 2000" disarmament proposals is the equivalent—as if the Federal Republic of Germany were a banana republic—of saying to the Bonn government: "We change policies whenever we feel like it, no matter what it means for your security; so now the reasons why we previously thought a Kohl chancellorship was expedient no longer exist—fend for yourselves."

Dr. Jürgen Todenhöfer, the leading defense policy spokesman of the CDU parliamentary group, rebuffed the Reagan administration's response to the Russians even before it became official. Since then, he has said publicly that the Kohl government's (i.e., Genscher's foreign ministry) agreement with the Reagan/Gorbachov deal is "absolutely intolerable," and "does not have the majority support of the CDU." Todenhöfer says flatly that Reagan's decision "will severely undermine the confidence of many West Europeans in the American security guarantee."

The State Department-managed Reagan administration shift of policy toward allowing a Russian takeover in Europe, is the strategic context Otto Schily and his CDU friends have waited for. The terrorist murders, in 1985, of Ernst Zimmermann, chairman of the board of Motoren- und Turbinen Union, and chairman of the German Aerospace Association, an advocate of West European participation in the Strategic Defense Initiative, as well as his close collaborator, French General Audran, shifted the leadership in industrial policy in favor of pro-Russian power groups. The unexplained deaths, in rapid succession, of CDU foreign ministry state secretary Alois Mertes and the CDU's foreign policy spokesman, Werner Marx, removed the most experienced CDU leaders resisting the appeasement policies of Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

The planned incoming government is designed to fit a U.S. disengagement from West Europe, and a Munich 1938-style accommodation with Moscow to the proverbial "t." That is half of the response to the perceived U.S. order to "fend for yourselves." For the other half, the incoming government is designed in the expectation that U.S. Jimmy Carter/Paul Volcker economic and financial policy will not change, and therefore "an emergency all-party grand austerity coalition," as our sources describe it, is in the wings to control the effects of a U.S. financial blow-out, and to control the damage of the backlash on West German industry and labor by handing Moscow access, on its own terms, to the West German industrial apparatus in trade and construction-contracts.

Dr. Gerhard Stoltenberg, the chancellor-candidate-in-waiting, is a member of the Trilateral Commission. He has been a silent opponent of West German participation in the Strategic Defense Initiative in the Bonn cabinet, supporting the outspoken sabotage of Foreign Minister Genscher.