OSI hoax exposed: the Rudolph travesty

by Joseph Brewda

Shocking new evidence has emerged to further confirm *EIR*'s repeated charge that the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI), is a witting KGB tool, treasonously operating against U.S. national security interests. New details on the OSI witchhunt aginst Dr. Arthur Rudolph abundantly demonstrate that this is the case.

In the spring of 1984, Dr. Rudolph, a retired NASA physicist, was confronted by the OSI with the charge that he was a Nazi war criminal. Rudolph, the designer of the Pershing I missile and Saturn rocket, is a hero of the U.S. space program, and was then a consultant to a group of physicists working on the Strategic Defense Initiative and other essential military research programs. It has since been overwhelmingly proven that the OSI case against Rudolph was a gigantic, witting hoax, from beginning to end, and that the OSI's intent was to cripple the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI).

Moreover, a three-year exhaustive study of the OSI's claims against Rudolph, by two West German prosecutorial agencies, which was concluded March 1987, further proves that OSI director Neil Sher, Assistant Attorney General Mark Richard, and Associate Attorney General Stephen S. Trott, clearly violated U.S. law on behalf of this Soviet objective. The mere fact that these three gentlemen were not summarily fired and prosecuted, after the West German government concluded its investigation, is, in itself, a demonstration of the strength of Soviet intelligence networks within the U.S. Justice Department.

Beginning in 1982, Dr. Rudolph was confronted by an OSI team led by Eli Rosenbaum, since employed by the pro-Soviet World Jewish Congress, and was charged with having participated in war crimes. Rudolph had been a civilian scientist employed in the construction of V-2 rockets at the Mittelwerk facility during the war. After the war, Rudolph and several of his associates, such as Dr. Wernher von Braun, emigrated to the United States, where they became the scientific core of the U.S. missile program, and NASA—a role they play to this day.

At these 1982-83 confrontations with the OSI, a startled Rudolph was told that if he did not voluntarily renounce his U.S. citizenship, and leave the United States, he would be subjected to deportation hearings. Rudolph was told by that the OSI had compiled a list of witnesses who had sworn they saw Rudolph commit atrocities during the war. The OSI refused to divulge either the identity of these purported witnesses, or their alleged testimony.

Faced with this judicial assault, and with insufficient funds to mount a competent legal defense, the 77-year-old Rudolph chose to leave the United States in March 1984, after agreeing with the OSI to give up his citizenship in return for a guaranteed pension.

Immediately after Rudolph's forced denaturalization became public, several Department of Justice officials, including OSI director Neil Sher, and former OSI director Allan Ryan, appeared repeatedly on national TV and throughout the U.S. press, condemning Rudolph as a "Nazi," and "murderer." Naturally enough, OSI formulations mimicked the statements pouring out of Soviet propaganda outlets at the time.

But for all the OSI's rantings, it never had any evidence for its claims.

The OSI hoax

Upon Rudolph's arrival in West Germany, the Central Office of State Judicial Administration began a formal investigation of the OSI charges that Rudolph was a war criminal. The Central Office, directed by Attorney General Alfred Streim, has oversight over Nazi war crime prosecutions in Germany. Streim reviewed Central Office files and found not even a mention of Rudolph. Streim also requested that the OSI forward to his office the list of purported witnesses it had against Rudolph, such that his investigation could be completed. Curiously, the heretofore aggressive OSI delayed forwarding its OSI file to Germany for a year, in unusual and direct violation of the U.S.-West German bilateral treaty governing such judicial cooperation.

By the time the OSI had apparently complied with the Central Office's request, sending what it purported to be a complete file on Rudolph, Streim concluded his thorough search for any information implicating Rudolph, and finding none, closed the investigation.

Following the conclusion of the Central Office investigation, the Hamburg state prosecutor's office began its own investigation of Rudolph, led by prosecutor Peter Beck. Beck's office spent three years exhaustively examining the Rudolph case, closing its investigation last March. Beck's investigation proved that there was not a shred of evidence against Rudolph. It also demonstrated, by implication, that the OSI, and Justice Department officials Sher, Richard, and Trott were guilty of malicious prosecution, obstruction of justice, and abuse of office. The witting nature of the OSI's fraudulent case against Rudolph is glaringly revealed by its so-called witness list, which the OSI had used to bully Dr. Rudolph out of the country.

When the Hamburg prosecutor received the OSI witness list, after a year's delay, it discovered that OSI's claim to have a case against Rudolph was nothing but a Goering-style "Big Lie." This OSI list contained the names of five individuals from the United States and four from Israel. All of these "witnesses" reported that they did not even know Rudolph during the war, or, if they knew him, that they had no evidence against him! Some of the alleged witnesses even acknowledged that they had never worked at the Mittelwerk facility where Rudolph had been exclusively employed.

Lest they be accused of lack of diligence, the Hamburg prosecutors continued ahead on their own investigation, despite the proof that the OSI charge was a complete fraud. Between 1984 and 1987, the Hamburg prosecutors pored over the testimony of over 300 witnesses made at previous trials relating to alleged war crimes at the facility Rudolph worked. Not one witness, in several thousand pages of testimony, even mentioned Rudolph.

The prosecutors then interrogated some 60 witnesses who had worked at Mittelwerk. Only one witness had any accusations against Rudolph, a Soviet citizen named Roman Korneyev. Korenyev had previously been quoted in an April 9, 1984 issue of the Soviet publication *New Times*, which was devoted to attacking Rudolph, *the SDI*, and the Pershing missile as "Nazi."

This Korneyev, while curiously accurate on such details about Rudolph as his middle name, made a series of factually incorrect statements on the work site which no one who was familiar with the facility could have made. Moreover, even Korneyev ultimately confessed that he never witnessed any atrocities committed by Rudolph, but simply speculated that Rudolph was responsible for various crimes.

Additionally, the West German prosecutors found many witnesses, in the United States, as well as Germany, who had known Rudolph at Mittelwerk, and were willing to testify positively on his behalf.

Further OSI cover-up

When the OSI belatedly forwarded its Rudolph file to the West German government, it was assumed that the file was neither doctored or incomplete. It has since been proven that the OSI systematically removed from its files any indication that it had been collaborating with the East German government on the Rudolph case. The OSI still lies that it did not work with the East German government on the case.

However, investigations have determined that the hoax targeting Rudolph began in August 1981, when Allan Ryan, then OSI director, and his assistant Neil Sher, visited East Berlin. The purpose of that meeting was to target former German scientists then working in the United States on military research. While the first OSI threat to Rudolph was made in 1982, it was only after President Reagan's March 23, 1983 speech announcing the SDI program, that the Soviet operation within the U.S. Justice Department and State Department began in earnest.

According to well-placed intelligence sources, on July 15, 1983, the U.S. State Department sent a diplomatic note to its embassy in East Berlin, numbered 433, which ordered embassy personnel to meet with the East German government to secure all documents it had on Rudolph, for the use of the OSI. During this same period, the U.S. government was being subjected to wild Warsaw Pact propaganda attacks for its SDI program. All correspondence and documents relating to this collaboration were removed by the OSI prior to its sending an allegedly complete file to West Germany.

Yet while the OSI was collaborating with East German agencies on framing up Rudolph, it refrained from even asking the West German government to assist it on the case.

In 1983, the Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs, under whose aegis the diplomatic note 433 would have been sent, was Richard Burt, now U.S. ambassador to West Germany. Burt has led the effort to "decouple" West Germany from the United States, and dismember NATO. It is Burt and his cothinkers at the State Department who are also the key U.S. proponents of the socalled zero option, which would strip Western Europe of its nuclear defense. The Gestapo-modeled persecution of Dr. Rudolph, the effort to decouple the United States from NATO, and the attack against the SDI represent one coherent Soviet intelligence deployment.

Upon the West German government's clearing Rudolph of the charges against him, and granting him citizenship, the OSI, and its collaborators, such as the World Jewish Congress, predictably went into a fit against Germany. "A man who should be put on trial winds up with citizenship instead," World Jewish Congress executive director Elan Steinberg ridiculously whined, and accused the West German government of "a shocking distortion of justice." Meanwhile, the OSI coldly announced that regardless of the West German decision, Arthur Rudolph would continue to be on a U.S. "watch list," and barred from entering the United States, because of his "war crimes!"

Congressman Bill Green (R-N.Y.) introduced a bill into Congress shortly after the West German action, which called for revoking Rudolph's Distinguished Service Medal, which he had earned for designing the Saturn rocket, because of Rudolph's "crimes." Green is also, notably, one of the most violent opponents of the SDI in the Congress, and has repeatedly denounced all U.S. funding for the x-ray laser. No doubt neither Mark Richard, nor Neil Sher, nor Green have voiced any objection to Moscow's recent launching of the 100-ton super-rocket, Energia, into space.

That rocket, modeled on Rudolph's Saturn, has put Moscow's own SDI into first place.