
Germany

Anti-Western clique runs key state

In January 1988, three trucks loaded with uranium hexafluoride arrived in Lübeck, West Germany, to transfer their cargo of wastes from German nuclear plants to other vehicles for transport to Sweden. The trucks remained in the city a full week without unloading, while the Social Democratic Senate of the city flatly prohibited its port authority from unloading or loading the "toxic wastes." A court order that annulled the Senate decision was no help. Protesters blocked the trucks for a week.

Shoulder to shoulder with radicals from the "Black Block" of Hamburg's Hafenstrasse counterculture district, Social Democratic Party (SPD) senators and party members blocked the transport. Some chanted, "Down with the Barschel Nuclear State," in reference to the late Uwe Barschel, the Christian Democratic minister president of the state of Schleswig-Holstein, who was forced from office by media scandal-mongering, and who then turned up dead under mysterious circumstances in a Swiss hotel last year.

The trucks only escaped the demonstrators by driving through Brunsbüttel, a town far to the west.

Schleswig-Holstein's new minister-president is Björn Engholm, and his Social Democrats will no longer allow transport of nuclear materials through the state. Moreover, there are rumors that the Social Democrats in Kiel are planning to close the ports and even the North Sea Canal to NATO vessels armed with nuclear weapons.

In short, the coming to power of the SPD government under Engholm on May 31 was a further step toward West Germany's strategic decoupling from the United States, and tilt toward the East bloc.

Now, any trade union member who attempts to defend jobs in Schleswig-Holstein's three nuclear plants is told that he is a relic of the Barschel era, suffering from a neurotic striving for power. Any plans to solve the high unemployment in Schleswig-Holstein—through economic growth, high technology, effective agriculture, modernized infrastructure—are immediately smeared with accusations of corruption.

Engholm, who likes to think of himself as the vanguard of the SPD, formulated models six years ago that anticipated the most avant-garde wage policies of the SPD left today. As he proudly reported to the radical newspaper *Tageszeitung*, the time has come to understand "that there will be working

for a living not only in the classical industrial sense. It is senseless when a union member objects to me that I am forgetting the labor force. Twenty percent of people today have a completely different conception of work." In 1987, for the first time, those employed in the service sector in Schleswig-Holstein exceeded the number of productive workers.

The new Economics Minister, Franz Froschmaier, is familiar with the economy only from the point of view of his position as a technocrat in the European Community headquarters in Brussels. Since 1958—and, thus for 30 years—Froschmaier was in the EC administration, responsible for the EC Commission's information policy—to market the brutal quota policy of this commission in Europe. "The EC Commission has been kicked around more than it deserves," Froschmaier said. As economics minister, he now intends to transplant to Schleswig-Holstein what he learned in Brussels. The plans of the EC to carry through, under the slogan Europa 92, a monstrous cartelization of the European economy at the expense of the middle class in general, will certainly make it possible for Froschmaier to find a place for the cartels in Schleswig-Holstein. A new economics think tank, initiated by Engholm and to be led by Froschmaier, is supposed to bring union members and entrepreneurs to democratically decide, using proven corporatist methods, on the victims to be destroyed in such a restructuring.

The "democratic dialogue" in agriculture is also supposed to convince farmers to voluntarily transform their farms into nature appreciation areas. Minister of the Environment Berndt Heydemann's soon-to-be-established academy for nature and the environment will take care of that. Heydemann, a notorious environmentalist and a colleague of Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands in the World Wildlife Fund, recently characterized farmers as the principal cause of all environmental problems. His announced soil protection program, which is supposed to remove from cultivation half the intensively farmed areas, fits perfectly with the EC policy to eradicate agriculture. Catastrophic consequences are feared for industry and agriculture as a result of the shutdown of nuclear energy, which Engholm intends to complete within, at most, eight years. What will the minister of the environment then say to the many, many coal-driven power plants that poison the air of Schleswig-Holstein, the tourist paradise?

But that's not all! The future Minister of the Interior, Hans Peter Bull, formerly the Bonn protector of the privacy of personal data, made a decisive contribution to crippling the national investigation of terrorist activities. In Schleswig-Holstein, fundamental rights are to be again respected, Bull said, and, for that reason, members of the German Communist Party are already applying in Kiel for teaching jobs who would not be employed in any other German state. And Bull, who straightway intends to do away with the law against hiring extremists in certain professions, promises to hire them all. But what will he do with all the power poles that will be sawed down?