

Report from Bonn by Rainer Apel

Germany again under terrorist attack

Left-wing terrorism is still alive, and new threats emerge from right-wing extremists, as official probes begin.

On Dec. 26, Heinz Anussek, the head of the State Agency for the Protection of the Constitution in Berlin, held a press conference on the recent rise of right-wing extremism, notably violence-prone neo-Nazi groups. Anussek said his agency was worried over evidence of contacts between the right-wing extremist scene and militant U.S. racist groups like the Ku Klux Klan.

An official probe into activities of the KKK and the circulation of its material has been launched in Berlin, Anussek said. He specifically mentioned a German-language edition of the KKK publication *Cross of Fire*, subtitled "White Survival," that had been seized by police. So far, weapons used by these groups have included knives, baseball bats, and metal chains. But also firearms, hand grenades, and other war matériel, mostly from disbanded East Germany Army stocks, have been found. There have already been incidents in which firearms were used in attacks on foreigners or leftist groups.

The right-wing violence, and the role of the KKK (among others) in training this new generation of terrorists—the rebirth of the infamous right-wing Organization Consul of the 1920s that killed several top politicians of the post-1918 Weimar Republic—deserves special attention. An official probe into KKK activities has also been launched by the Federal Prosecutor of Germany in Karlsruhe where the Constitutional Court is also located.

The rise of right-wing extremism is very much at the center of public attention and debate these days, but it must not seduce politicians and terror-

ism experts into underrating the threat that is still posed from left-wing extremist groups and the Baader Meinhof (RAF) terrorists.

Having recently discovered two secret depots of arms and explosives, anti-terrorism officials warned against renewed Baader Meinhof attacks on select senior politicians, industrial managers, and military figures. In a year-end interview with the *Quick* weekly, Hans-Ludwig Zachert, the head of the Federal Anti-Crime Agency, the BKA, said: "We're expecting attacks by the RAF at any time. The anniversary of the discovery of America that has just begun could be the starting point for operations of the terrorists."

This, experts told *EIR*, may mean attacks on Spanish institutions in Germany—Spain being blamed for having first conquered the New World—but also on American or any institutions that are associated with the "500-year-old imperialism" in the minds of left-wing extremists and the relics of the pro-communist movement among German intellectuals.

In an incident on New Year's Day, police defused a bomb put under the car of the Spanish consul in Hamburg. There may be an attempt next to kidnap a U.S. general, or an assassination attempt like the failed ones in the early 1980s against U.S. NATO Generals Haig (bomb) and Kroesen (anti-tank missile).

In this context, the press here reported prominently that the RAF is more professional and more dangerous than before. In a feature Dec. 30, the European edition of the *Wall*

Street Journal quoted a federal investigator saying that the RAF "usually gets the sort of people who are impossible to replace."

He was referring to cases like Deutsche Bank chairman Alfred Herrhausen, who was killed in his car by a remote-control bomb on Nov. 30, 1989, and Treuhand agency chairman Detlev Rohwedder, who was shot dead by a sniper on April 1, 1991.

The article addressed the increasing evidence of operational mergers between senior ex-officers of the East German secret intelligence (Stasi) with the RAF terrorists of West Germany after unification.

The article quoted from the last interview the late head of the Hamburg state intelligence, Christian Lochte, gave last summer: RAF terrorists are helped, Lochte said, by "out-of-work intelligence agents . . . of the former East German State Security apparatus, who were responsible for handling contacts with western terrorists."

The reference is to figures like Lt. Helmut Voigt, who once headed the Stasi's Central Directorate 12th subdivision, who were responsible for terrorism. In East Germany, Voigt's subdivision trained select West German terrorists in the use of high-powered explosives, submachine guns, and in spying on target figures. This training is documented, at least for the early 1980s, in Stasi files secured by police after unification.

Contacts from that period are continuing on an operational level. "Such Stasi people (like Voigt) disappeared with millions in cash and with weapons—and with international contacts," Lochte had warned.

The CIA and other western agencies have recruited ex-Stasi personnel. Anti-terrorism experts here have expressed amazement at the professionalism of the RAF: "They are operating like a real secret service."