
The Palme Assassination

Swedish political ‘gatekeepers’ are losing their grip

by Torbjörn Jerlerup

The theory that a “lone assassin” murdered Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme on Feb. 28, 1986, received more blows recently, reinforcing the growing perception of a cover-up in the investigation of those responsible for his murder. In June, it was revealed that the mysterious 1984 death of Cats Falck — a Swedish journalist who investigated secret Swedish arms deals with East Germany, Iran, and African nations — could have been murder, carried out by Communist East German agents; and that her murder could be related to the assassination of Palme. And, in late July, it was revealed that an alleged former South African spy and arms dealer, Nigel Barnett, had been interrogated by Swedish police because of his possible involvement in the Palme assassination. Both tracks clearly have nothing whatsoever to do with the fiction of a “lone assassin.”

On July 22 and 23, Swedish media reported that Barnett had been interrogated by Swedish police in Mozambique earlier this spring. Barnett was arrested in March for arms smuggling and for possibly being a former spy, working for the South African apartheid regime. In April, it was revealed that Barnett had extensive Swedish contacts, and that a tape-recording of a radio program on the Palme assassination was found in his car at the time of his arrest. Swedish authorities were alerted to this, and a Swedish police official travelled to Maputo, Mozambique and interrogated him. The Swedish police official who went there serves as the expert on the “South Africa track” in the official investigation of the Palme assassination.

This “South Africa track” surfaced in September 1996, when a former South African Secret Service colonel, Eugene De Kock, testified to the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission, claiming that he knew who assassinated Palme, and that South Africa was involved in the assassination.

It was soon revealed by Swedish media that a network around former Rhodesian and South African agents Craig Williamson and Anthony White, a secret intelligence network involved in espionage, assassination, and illegal arms smuggling in Europe, the United States, and Africa, was involved. Barnett reportedly is not only a good friend of Williamson

and White, but also speaks Swedish (he was adopted by a Swedish missionary as a child).

The Cats Falck case

Between March and April of this year, new revelations on the death of 31-year-old Swedish journalist Cats Falck in November 1984, made front-page headlines in the Swedish press. Falck, who was investigating secret arms deals, was found dead, along with a friend, in a car at the bottom of Stockholm’s harbor. At the time, the death was declared an “auto accident.” But, the Stockholm police reopened the case as a murder investigation, after an anonymous letter arrived at police headquarters, accusing the East German secret police, the Stasi, of the murder. The motive was, according to the writer, that she knew too much about secret arms deals. — The Stasi had already been deeply implicated in the Palme assassination and cover-up. Shortly after the collapse of the East German regime, following the fall of the Berlin Wall, a high-ranking Stasi official, Herbert Brehmer, appeared in Swedish news publications and on radio interviews, admitting that he, as a disinformation specialist in the Stasi’s Department X, had orchestrated the Big Lie that American politician Lyndon LaRouche had been behind the Palme assassination. Brehmer described in detail how the Stasi had used a network of assets inside the Swedish media and the Social Democracy, to plant a rash of stories, all based on the ID-format smear, “LaRouche killed Palme.” The Stasi operation was abetted by the U.S.-based Anti-Defamation League of B’nai B’rith, NBC TV’s news division, and the Soviet KGB. But it was the Stasi that led the drive to misdirect Swedish investigators away from promising leads, down the false trail of LaRouche and his Swedish associates in the European Labor Party.

The anonymous tip that the Stasi had played a role in the murder of Falck reinforces suspicions some Swedes have had about her death. Many believed at the time, that she was murdered because of her last journalistic investigation, which dealt with secret arms deals and smuggling of sensitive electronic equipment. Besides many strange circumstances around her disappearance and the nature of this so-called “accident,” it has been well known since her death in 1984, that

AK: 54	PATRULL: 11E0	BEORDRAD: 23:22	AT	ANTECKNINGAR:
		KLAR PÅ PLATS: 04:17	MB	RTGÅRD:
		AVSLUTAT: 04:17	MU	ANTAL GRIPNA:
AK: 52	PATRULL: 2520	BEORDRAD: 23:31	AT	ANTECKNINGAR:
		KLAR PÅ PLATS: 03:27	SS	RTGÅRD:
		AVSLUTAT: 03:27	SS	ANTAL GRIPNA:
AK: 54	PATRULL: 1227	BEORDRAD: 23:33	AT	ANTECKNINGAR:
		KLAR PÅ PLATS: 04:17	MB	RTGÅRD:
		AVSLUTAT: 04:17	MB	ANTAL GRIPNA:

This computer list shows that Gösta Söderström, in patrol 2520, reported that he had arrived at the murder site at 23:31. The crucial computer records from the night of the assassination were destroyed some years after 1986; this part of it, in the form of a computer list, is all that survived.

most of the notes and tape-recordings that she made during her last assignment disappeared mysteriously after her death, never to be recovered.

Parts of the anonymous letter were published in *Dagens Nyheter* in the beginning of June by the journalist Bo G. Andersson. In the letter, it is written that “Cats Falck wanted to reveal something big,” that “she was investigating [Swedish arms producer] Bofors . . . and had found that ships from Sweden were unloading containers in Rostock [East Germany], which later were transferred to the storage of IMES [an East German trading firm] at Kavelsdorf, near Rostock. IMES was supervised by the Stasi and was involved in arms smuggling all over the world.” This information led the police to reopen the Falck case, and one man is now assigned to take a fresh look at the details of it.

The German police have also shown interest in the Falck case. In June, Manfred Kittlaus, the head of ZERV, the German police unit investigating the crimes of the Stasi, made a formal request to get a copy of the letter, via Interpol. According to Kittlaus, the Falck case is one of 12 cases he is investigating, of murders carried out by the Stasi outside of East Germany. Press sources report that there could be as many as 200 such cases under investigation.

The assassination of a prime minister

Reflecting the growing discrediting of the politically convenient “lone assassin” theory, journalists and other experts have pointed toward wider conspiracies for the assassination. Bo G. Andersson, in a series of articles in *Dagens Nyheter*, connected the Falck murder with the Palme assassination. In addition, the main researcher of the Swedish Peace and Arbitration League, Henrik Westander, also mentioned this possibility in an interview in *Aftonbladet* on June 2. The problem is, that those who raise the connection of the secret arms trade to the Palme assassination, and the officials investigating the “South Africa track,” tend to lose sight of the fact that the arms deals of Bofors were *not* a “Swedish affair,” but something bigger.

In the 1996 *EIR Special Report* “George Bush and the 12333 Serial Murder Ring,” as well as in the 1989 *EIR Special Report* “Irangate, the Secret Government and the LaRouche Case,” on the Iran-Contra deals, *EIR* has detailed how Bush and Margaret Thatcher were coordinating perhaps the largest secret arms-smuggling operation in world history, in the mid-

1980s. Guns, explosives, and sophisticated missiles were traded secretly to various parts of the world, as part of a geopolitical strategy to create “arcs of crisis,” and, thus, to keep the world divided by fear and chaos. The Swedish explosives and arms company Bofors played a crucial role in the European part of this strategy, and smuggled tons of explosives to Iran through the Soviet bloc (East Germany and Yugoslavia), in collaboration with the explosives cartel of the western European countries, and sometimes with the help of American planes involved in the arms-for-hostages project with Iran.

Palme’s government sought to end the Bofors secret trade of explosives to Iran and East Germany in 1985, after German and Swedish Customs officials discovered the secret shipments. An investigation was initiated that year, with the tacit consent of the Swedish government, which ultimately threatened to break up the trade of arms and explosives to Iran and Iraq during their war. This is a known fact, and is definitely something more than a purely internal Swedish matter.

If Falck was murdered by the Stasi because she knew too much, it certainly has to do with this secret *international* trade. The same thing obtains with the “South African track”: This is by no means only a Swedish and South African deal. The “South African track” leads directly to George Bush. In the “12333 Serial Murder Ring” report, *EIR* detailed that Craig Williamson and Anthony White, the possible conspirators involved in the assassination, were an integral part of the African network of the Bush-Thatcher apparatus. The same planes which flew arms to Iran and to the Contras in Nicaragua, also flew to Africa with arms for, among others, the UNITA of Angola’s Jonas Savimbi, who was, up until this time, closely allied with Bush and Thatcher. The South African arms company Armscor worked closely with the Bush crowd and with the European arms cartel, including the Swedish arms producer Bofors, during this period. Williamson and White played a crucial role in these African operations.

This fact has yet to be properly investigated. More than 11 years have passed, and still no interrogation has been conducted of the key individuals of this secret trade, such as Oliver North and Alexander Schalk-Golodkowski of IMES. It is the same with the “gatekeepers” in the so-called “free press” of Sweden, who have the attitude that “we have to look for the gun which killed Palme; conspiracies have nothing to do with the murder,” as the main Palme assassination “expert” of the paper *Aftonbladet*, Lennart Haardh, told this writer a

half-year ago. The question now is, have the Swedish police, in the light of this new evidence, decided to do some serious work to investigate these matters?

More on Africa

A closer look at the surviving notes from Falck's diaries underscores the importance of investigating the cases of Falck and Palme together, and of bringing in the whole picture of the international illegal arms trade. According to her notes, Falck was delving deeply into this arms trade. Several notes deal with Armscor of South Africa, and in one note, she wrote in a fragmentary way that: "South Africa is the center . . . illegal trade . . . advanced American technology." Another note states: "Seven containers, American producers, digital equipment via Cape Town, South Africa."

Other quotes show that she was investigating Swedish secret operations in Africa, too, as part of her look at the illegal arms trade. She writes about "possible Swedish airplanes" that had been sold to some nation, and about something which was going to happen in 1986, and then names the nations of Senegal, Sudan, and Ethiopia; names of Swedish diplomats and foundations appear in her fragmentary notes.

This was written in 1984. Was it possible that she had found something related to the great regrouping of political positions that occurred in Africa in 1986, after secret negotiations between East and West had been held?

Africa was then, as now, the playground for all kinds of dirty geopolitical games. And in January 1986, two months before the assassination of Palme, Dieter Uhlig from IMES and the Stasi met with the chairman of Lonrho, Tiny Rowland, in London. The subject was how Britain, through Lonrho, and East Germany, through the Stasi, should coordinate and divide up their work in Africa. The result of the deal was, most notably, that the coup d'état that Rowland's pet, Yoweri Museveni, staged in Uganda in January 1986, was recognized by the Soviet bloc as legitimate. The protocol of the meeting gives many details about how the Hitler-to-be of Africa, Museveni, had received support from Rowland in 1985. At the meeting, it was also decided that the governments of Angola and Mozambique, until then Soviet assets, should begin to cooperate with the British and with the U.S. government under Bush. Hence, after 1986, the support from the Bush-Thatcher alliance for the resistance movements of UNITA in Angola and Renamo in Mozambique, was gradually withdrawn. In 1996, Mozambique joined the British Commonwealth, as final proof of the former Portuguese colony's new pro-British status.

Sweden, too, played an important role in this dirty game. Hence, the importance of Falck's notes. Museveni got plenty of support from Sweden before he gained power and established contact with the Social Democratic party during his visit to Sweden in spring 1985. To this very day, the Swedish government remains one of the most important backers of Museveni, despite evidence that more than 3 million people have been exterminated in wars in which he has played a



Prime Minister Olof Palme and his wife, Lisbeth, in Stockholm in 1984. On the night of his assassination on Feb. 28, 1986, Palme had dismissed his security detail early. He then decided to go to the cinema with his wife, unprotected.

crucial role.

If one broadens the investigation of the Palme assassination to deal with these secret arms deals, the mysterious deaths of people involved in these deals, and with the deliberate cover-up of the murder investigation by the head of the Stockholm police, Hans Holmér, in 1986, the truth about the assassination can be found. A serious investigation must include the origins of the slander campaign against Lyndon LaRouche and the European Labor Party; they were accused of the murder in March 1986, and have never been fully cleared of this accusation. The importance for the investigation can be seen in the fact that it can be shown that it was the Stasi and the arms- and drug-running network around George Bush which spread the lie that "LaRouche killed Palme." If treated properly, this constitutes one more crucial piece of evidence pointing to the role of George Bush and the Stasi in the assassination.

Real evidence on the murder, which might be embarrassing for the "gatekeepers" in Sweden, could come out of the new trial on the smuggling of explosives from Bofors to East Germany. A new trial is scheduled to take place this fall. The accused is Mats Lundberg (sales director of Bofors Explosives in the mid-1980s), who coordinated the Swedish part of the sales of explosives to East Germany and Iran the year before Palme was assassinated.