

The Humboldt County horror

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November 6, 1997

On Oct. 17, 1997, the police of California's Humboldt County intervened against an estimated sixty, black-hooded, rampaging eco-terrorists, who had broken into the office of U.S. Representative Frank Riggs (R-Calif.). Now, pressure has come down on Federal officials to investigate the Humboldt County police for civil rights violation, although, as yet, there are no reported indications of actual police use of excessive force to bring the riot in the congressman's office under control.

The danger is, that should this Federal investigation against the Humboldt County police turn out to be a case of the kind of corrupt political influence it appears to be, the U.S. will be opened up for an epidemic of terrorist actions by violence-prone eco-terrorist groups. Whatever the outcome of this case, there is already a pattern of attempts, at high levels, to cover up for the existence of a growing eco-terrorist problem inside the United States. This problem is likely to increase under the conditions of threats by Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair, and others, to shut down much of what remains of the U.S. economy under "Global Warming" pretexts.

EIR addresses such threats from its experience over a span of three decades, both as a participant in combatting terrorism, and also, at various times, of the targetting of its personnel by various kinds of terrorist organizations, both in the U.S.A., and internationally.

We have studied in depth, as in Peru and Colombia, for example, how a refusal to deal with the related problem of narco-terrorism as such, when it was limited in scale, led to a near takeover of Peru by these mass-murderers, and how complicity with narco-terrorists, at high levels, has led to the virtual destruction of Colombia. We know in considerable detail, the threat to the very existence of civilized society, within western Europe, by the para-military forms of mass eco-terrorism unleashed in Germany, France, and elsewhere

in western Europe, beginning 1977, and continuing into the late 1980s.

We have seen the human rights of the populations of entire nations, placed in jeopardy, through the influence of groups such as Amnesty International, the Inter-American Dialogue, Greenpeace, and others, when such groups have acted on behalf of terrorists. In every case studied from the 1970s, 1980s, and later, it has been widely acknowledged among the relevant experts, that the ability of terrorist organizations to continue to operate inside modern nation-states, has depended upon repeated interventions from a type of sympathizing "fellow-traveller" which falls into the news-media category of "influential persons and organizations above suspicion."

Unless the eco-terrorist potential already afoot in the U.S.A. is effectively contained, any family in the United States is placed potentially at personal risk by this presently growing form of terrorist activity here. When a potentially violent "single-issue" group develops within it a core of hard-bitten desperadoes, who summon the quality of "criminal energy" in the service of their obsession, that single-issue group will produce serious violence, even waves of murder in the name of the single-issue "cause." That ominous quality, of "criminal energy," is visible today around the edges of the current U.S. brand of "action-oriented, single-issue" groups with "ecologist" vectors.

A violent break-in, into the office of an elected official, by a group wearing hoods, is either an action staged by provocateurs attempting to incriminate "action-oriented, ecologist" groups as suspect perpetrators of that action, or, otherwise, a genuine indication that for the group involved, the threshold of "criminal energy" either has been crossed, or is now in the process of being crossed. The cross-over into the kind of action reported by the Humboldt County police, would be typical of an action deployed to criminalize an "action-oriented ecologist" group with a "taste for blood," thus being transformed into a "hard core" terrorist organization.



An anti-logging demonstration by Earth First! in California's Humboldt County, in 1994. Today, there is an emerging pattern of attempts, at high levels, to cover up for the growing eco-terrorist problem in the United States.

Eco-terrorism in 1980s Germany

For continental Europe, the decade of epidemic eco-terrorist violence, began just over twenty years ago. The transition from terrorism by groups such as the original "Baader-Meinhof Gang," to generalized eco-terrorism, occurred during Spring-Summer 1977, in France and Germany. Today, the generation of leading officials who defended nations against that wave of international terrorism, is, in large part, retired from active duty. Now, as reflected in the outbursts against the United States by Britain's Prime Minister Tony Blair, and other influentials nominally "above suspicion," we must be forewarned that a new wave of international eco-terrorism is about to be unleashed, most probably with the backing of the largest terrorists' umbrella-organization in the Americas today, the São Paulo Forum headed by Cuba's Fidel Castro. A new generation of security and peace officers must be trained to deal with such large-scale crime.

The classic case for study, in preparing a new generation of law-enforcement and security personnel to take on the eco-terrorist threat in today's North America, is the way in which the eco-terrorism which was launched from France during Spring-Summer 1977, developed into a virtual military force conducting eco-terrorist civil war within Germany during the middle through late 1980s. That case-study from the 1970s and 1980s presents all of those leading elements of an eco-terrorist threat which should be of present concern, as potential, to law enforcement and national-security intelligence responsibilities in the U.S.A. today.

The characteristic feature of the 1970s-1980s terrorism in Germany was the involvement of the Warsaw Pact bloc, with East Germany's military agencies, and Interior Ministry, contributing a leading role. In every case of post-1968 narco- and eco-terrorism studied from that period, and more recently, a continued campaign of terrorism in any country, has assumed the form of a special kind of warfare, which our published studies of the 1980s classified under the term "irregular warfare." It was warfare directed against the nation and its institutions. Behind this attack was either a foreign power, a powerful political faction of that nation itself conducting a virtual civil war in this way, or, as in the 1980s Germany case, a combination of foreign and domestic factions, such as factions internal to both NATO and the Warsaw Pact, each with its fingers in the game.

As noted, the coordinated deployment of mass eco-terrorism was launched through preparatory conferences in Paris, during the Spring of 1977. During these conferences, the potential for "criminal energy" among the "eco-terrorists" and their supporters was summoned by the "drum-beat" slogan "nuclear energy is fascism." While this led to mass-violence in France, by July 1977, the focus was upon Germany. The assassination of Dresdner Bank's Jürgen Ponto and Daimler-Benz's Hanns-Martin Schleyer inaugurated what was to become ten years of increasingly intense and large-scale terrorist actions. (According to warnings supplied by high-level U.S. intelligence sources, as confirmed by high levels of an official security organization in Europe, I was number two on

the same list of assassination-targets which included Ponto and Schleyer.)

The case of the February 1986 assassination of Sweden's Prime Minister Olof Palme belongs in this category of terrorist actions which were set within the context provided by a decade of mass eco-terrorist violence. Whoever actually set up that assassination, or the related assassination of Germany's Uwe Barschel, two elements typical of international terrorism dominate the circumstances and aftermath of the crime. Both Palme and Barschel were persons whose continued existence represented a grave threat of inconvenience to those international weapons-traffickers, including Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and U.S. Vice-President George Bush, who were up to their ears in what came to be called "the Iran-Contra" trafficking in drugs and weaponry. In both cases, official agencies willfully sabotaged the investigation of the crime; in the case of Palme, crucial assistance in that cover-up was prearranged through Warsaw Pact agencies, notably Section X of the East Germany Interior Ministry. In the Palme case, documents show that the East Germany intelligence service's operations received support from U.S. official and private agencies, including the U.S. Department of Justice, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), NBC-TV News, and the *Washington Post*.

Although the high-level motives for eliminating Palme, like the murder of Uwe Barschel, were not related to "radical ecologist" issues, the climate created by a bloody decade of eco-terrorism in Europe had produced the political-psychological environment in which attention could be drawn away from the relevant, "Iran-Contra"-related prime suspects. Similarly, in the case of the 1989 assassination of Alfred Herrhausen, attention was drawn from the leading suspect, British intelligence services operating under openly stated "Fourth Reich" policies, by attributing the killing to a then non-existent "new Baader-Meinhof generation."

In the case of the 1970s-1980s terrorism in Germany, there were three leading, controlling factors in the background. For the Warsaw Pact, Germany was the leading-edge of NATO's capability. For the same elements in the Britain and France of the 1970s and 1980s, who, in 1989 surfaced to echo Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's "Fourth Reich" hate-campaign against Germany, Thatcher's, Mitterrand's, and Bush's geopolitically motivated undermining of a German ally's technological-industrial potential, before and after the events of 1989, was already an actual, if not publicly proclaimed policy-consideration. Finally, inside Germany itself, there were the same finance-oligarchical interests which had backed the malicious, anti-Schiller, "post-modernist" tradition of Theodor Adorno's and Hannah Arendt's "Frankfurt School."

Such terrorism, whether European "eco-terrorism" of the 1977-1987 interval, South American narco-terrorism, or other varieties, was quite literally, "warfare fought by other," often homicidal "means," always converging, like eco-terror-

ism in today's U.S.A., upon violence against the targeted institutions of the state and society. That is to say, that these varying colorations of terrorism represented the bloody edge of a specific type of political warfare, a type of warfare deployed as an alternative to regular warfare between nations, or forms of civil war related to modern regular warfare. The task of the counter-terrorist specialists was to recognize this character of the terrorism of that period, and to address such terrorism as belonging to a special sub-category of warfare, a type of warfare which, like modern regular warfare, had its own specific characteristics, its own special strategies and tactics.

Thus, for example, during the mass battles between eco-terrorists and Germany's police, during the 1980s, the terrorist forces had a well-defined military structure and professional military command. The structure was represented on the field of direct conflict by an inner hard core, acting with "criminal energy," a "blooded" core of those willing to kill and be killed in a fight with police and others. Supporting the hard core, were the combat auxiliaries of less "energy" and inferior combat capabilities, and behind them, the physical screen provided by the camp-followers of this "Wallenstein's Camp," the political supporters. The hard-core military leadership were persons actually developed as an officer cadre, usually trained for this role in East Germany.

The European eco-terrorist forces of the 1977-1987 interval, represented armies which, between engagements, would blend back into the general population, from which they would be re-launched in small guerrilla tactics, or combined into a virtual regular military action-force, as in the most celebrated eruptions of this sort in France and Germany.

The adopted German term for this special type of warfare against the nation and state, was "*Kleinkrieg*" (e.g., the English "guerrilla warfare"). In our discussions of this matter with German and other professionals, a more appropriate term was adopted, "irregular warfare."¹ It is an alternative form of warfare between states, or an alternative form of civil war among opposing forces of the same nation. In every sense of the term, it is a form of warfare, in which the armies represent a powerful faction of some nation, fighting to impose their political will upon the targeted nation and its people.

Given the attack upon the United States by Prime Minister Blair and others, over the "Global Warming" issue, and given the state of development of the radical "ecology movement's" forces at this juncture, the mere fact that an estimated 60 black-hooded persons, representing an "ecologist's" cause, could break into a Congressman's office, and attempt to trash it thor-

1. Cf. Friedrich Freiherr von der Heydte, *Modern Irregular Warfare*, 2nd edition, with Introduction by Michael Liebig and Note by Lyndon H. LaRouche (New York: New Benjamin Franklin House, 1986). This book had been originally published under the title *Moderne Kleinkrieg*, in 1972. The publication of the second edition, both in German and, simultaneously, in English translation, was a by-product of a broadly based discussion among professionals and others, on both sides of the Atlantic.