

W. Germany — The Present Battleground For NATO Strategy

This week's resignation by West German Defense Minister Georg Leber over a continuing series of wiretapping scandals involving military counter-intelligence (Militärische Abwehrdienst, MAD) is the result of major factional warfare in West Germany over NATO's future strategy.

WEST GERMANY

One faction, centered around certain West German Bundeswehr generals, and linked to Leber, wants to define NATO strategy as coherent with the mutual desire of both NATO and Warsaw Pact countries to live in peace.

Leber's opposition, headed by NATO Supreme Commander General Alexander Haig, and West German Christian Democratic defense spokesman Manfred Wörner, are calling for wonder-weapons, such as the cruise missile and the neutron bomb, and a heightening of the Cold War against the Warsaw Pact. These provocations are the very tactics that Britain, the "sick man of Europe," wants NATO to adopt to isolate Western Europe from the East bloc, thereby insuring British hegemony on the continent.

Both factions met in a head-on confrontation at the

annual Wehrkunde defense conference held in Munich Jan. 29-30.

Wörner tried to control the direction of the meeting in his Jan. 29 keynote address, demanding that Europe have the American cruise missile to offset the Soviet SS-20 missile. He also demanded the neutron bomb, and insisted that West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt should be the first European to call for the neutron bomb publicly. "Western Europe is the nuclear hostage of Moscow," was Wörner's justification for a Cold War attitude toward the Soviet Union.

General Haig followed Wörner, and to further the momentum for the arsenal buildup insisted that although the West still had an advantage over the Warsaw Pact, that advantage was small and diminishing.

But a group of West German generals attending the conference told *Süddeutsche Zeitung* military correspondent Christian Potyka that Haig and Wörner's attitudes were not really indicative of strategic perceptions inside NATO. West German general Bennecker said that the kinds of weapons they were recommending were *Wunderwaffen* — a reference to Josef Goebbels, the Nazi Propaganda Minister, who claimed in 1945 that the victorious Allies could be stopped by secret German wonder-weapons. Bennecker also criticized the cruise missile and neutron bomb as being offensive, not defensive weapons, and in addition, weapons that the Soviet Union could easily duplicate.

Teller Calls For U.S. High Technology Push

Reprinted below is part of an address by the renowned nuclear physicist Edward Teller, which appeared in the Jan. 22 issue of Welt am Sonntag:

The question is often asked: can we still catch up with the Russians in the arms race? What we usually call the "arms race" is in fact no race at all. Such a race occurred at the beginning of this century between England and Germany. The English had so many battleships, and the Kaiser had so many. The battleships slightly differed from each other, of course, but a battleship was always a battleship.

In the present, rapidly changing technological scene, however, an aircraft carrier is not just like another aircraft carrier, an atom bomb is not like another atom bomb, an airplane not like another airplane, and especially a laser beam is not like another laser beam. What really counts is technological innovations, and not more numbers. These technological innovations are not only kept secret, they are worse than secret, since the effects of these new weapons are virtually unknown even to their possessors. The effect of a technologi-

cal innovation can only be measured after it has been used in actual battle.

The fact that the arms race is a competition for technologies and not simply of weapons, could be grounds for us to be optimistic. American technology is certainly superior to Russian technology. This was so in the past, and it is definitely so today in the civilian sector. Possibly it is also true in the secret military field. Whatever we are lacking in quantity, we are presumably making this up through superior quality. It should nevertheless be cause for concern that everything we can count favors the Russians. We hold the advantage only in the incalculables.

Luckily there is one important field in which we are much better than the Russians: electronics. Why is this so? Because our consumer society operates everywhere with electronics — with televisions and ingenious watches, which are not only insurpassably exact, but are produced on an assembly line. The Russians will not be able to learn the complicated tricks of electronics, and cannot learn them, even if we invited them over and gave them instructions.

Bennecker's analysis, that Haig's strategy would fail to impress the Soviet Union, was not mentioned at the second day of the conference, but the topic changed from ridiculous wonder-weapons to the second Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty (SALT II). U.S. Senator John Tower (R-Tex) led the attack on the present version of the agreement, playing to Christian Democrats in the audience by reminding them that it would only take 34 negative votes in the U.S. Senate to block passage of SALT II. Several U.S. Congressmen in the audience made no objections to Tower's statement. The West German daily *Die Welt* reported that all the second-day speakers attacked SALT II on the allegation that it would expose Western Europe to attack by Soviet medium range rockets by prohibiting European use of these missiles for three years.

No one mentioned, however, that it is only Britain that really wants SALT II to collapse so that cruise missiles in Europe, developed with American funds, would extend the range of Britain's own independent nuclear arsenal.

But continental European countries like West Germany, exemplified by Leber's downplay of that missile, consider the cruise missile as yet another target on their territory that they could well do without.

Ironically, on the day of the conference attacks on the projected SALT II agreement with the Soviet Union, West German State Minister Hans-Jürgen Wischniewski, a high official in Helmut Schmidt's Chancellery, met with leading East German officials in Berlin for a session that had been long delayed by the publication of the fraudulent East German dissidents' manifesto in the weekly *Der Spiegel* magazine. An official West German spokesman described the meeting as "clearing a couple of hurdles out of the way" for future discussions. The official East German daily also supported the meeting, stating that "the normalization of relations between the two countries will proceed on the basis that the (West German) Federal government continues to be guided by the treaties that have been signed."

—James Cleary

Tory Gov't In The Wings Prepares Fascist Policies For Britain

Preparations are now underway in London to dump the vacillating, "middle-of-the-road" government of Prime Minister James Callaghan and install a Tory regime, more attuned to notions of British "supremacy" and duly capable of carrying out British Round Table policies for Cold War and domestic fascism. Although Callaghan has managed to placate the London financial community by breaking the trade unions via three years of "voluntary" wage restraint, the Labour Party's cover of "economic growth" stands in the way of the outright looting schemes now demanded by monetarist forces. Nor could the Labour Party throw off its pro-detente posture to steer Europe toward a renewal of Cold War hostilities.

BRITAIN

For this reason, a fascist government in the wings is now being prepared, to be headed by Kissinger protégé Margaret Thatcher, ably assisted in the foreign policy sphere by former Prime Minister Edward Heath. The much publicized rapprochement between the two supposed arch rivals — Heath and Thatcher — which took place last weekend following Heath's talks with Kissinger in the U.S., fueled speculation that the Tories were tightening ranks preparatory to a General Election.

Former Tory Cabinet member Enoch Powell — Britain's most notorious fascist ideologue — is also being encouraged to return to the Conservative fold in time for the election campaign.

Although Callaghan is not mandated to call an election until October of 1979, the shakiness of Labour's electoral

pact with the tiny Liberal Party and the environment of racial hysteria which has been generated recently to boost Thatcher's popularity, makes an early election "inevitable" according to most political commentators. Should Callaghan be forced out of office prematurely, the Tories would immediately begin to carry out the directives of their City of London controllers, from a fascist solution to the economic crisis, to an assertion of British right to dominate the policies of the European Economic Community and NATO. The outlines of Tory policy have been already spelled out in numerous speeches, articles and documents, cited below:

Foreign Policy

In foreign policy, the Tories have one key goal: to foster an atmosphere of Cold War between Western Europe and the Soviet Union, which would not only undermine East-West negotiations on arms reductions, but would throw a spanner into the delicate Middle East peace talks. Heath has already proposed the setting up of a European (i.e., British-dominated) military force to patrol the Mideast during the key transitional period. This would not only effectively eliminate both the U.S. and the Soviet Union from the picture, but would most likely fuel new hostilities. In an editorial page feature published in the *Sunday Times* of London on Jan. 13, Heath warned that if current peace initiatives failed, the Arab countries would turn instead to the Soviet Union for supplies, and issued the directive that Soviet incursions, whether in the Middle East or Africa, must be stopped at all costs.

The Tories have already demanded EEC intervention to prevent the participation of the Italian Communist