

Terror international closes grip on Europe

by Susan Welsh

All of Western Europe is braced, as we go to press, for the imminent death in prison of members of the terrorist Red Army Faction (RAF) in West Germany, who have been hunger-striking since Dec. 4. If one or more of the prisoners dies, law-enforcement authorities fear an unprecedented explosion of terror against prominent individuals and U.S. and NATO military targets. While the news media are bombarding the population with blow-by-blow accounts of the ebbing strength of the hunger-strikers, the authorities now openly admit that they are unable to cope with the expected outbreak. Heribert Hellenbroich, the head of West Germany's federal law enforcement agency, the Bundesverfassungsschutz, declared in a radio interview on Jan. 10 that the situation is "very serious" and "neither the police nor the federal prosecutors nor the Verfassungsschutz are in a position as of now to rein in the RAF."

What makes the terror threat doubly dangerous now is the increasingly tight coordination of the terrorist groups across national borders—they are striking with one fist. Support groups for the RAF prisoners have popped up throughout the continent, and on Jan. 15, the Paris news agency Agence France Presse received a joint communiqué from the French-based Action Directe, the RAF, and the Belgian Communist Combatant Cells (CCC), announcing the formation of a "political-military front in Western Europe" to attack NATO. The groups declared a joint strategy "for a unity of the revolutionaries in Western Europe . . . a new phase for the development of an authentic revolutionary strategy . . . to create a Western European guerrilla movement against NATO . . . the most advanced imperialist ruling structure, which must be destroyed."

The same day, the CCC bombed a U.S. military center in Brussels, wounding two MPs. The CCC has struck before against military targets, including NATO supply pipelines, but never before have personnel been injured. In a letter claiming credit for the atrocity, the CCC jeered: "This was the first attack in which Yankee militaries and their accomplices could have been killed or wounded. Now we will expand further on these two tracks. Human life is not absolute. We

do not regard it as sacred." The CCC dedicated the bombing to the Red Army Faction.

Then on Jan. 25, a high-level functionary of the French defense ministry, René Oudran, was killed by a terrorist belonging to Action Directe and the Elisabeth Van Dyck Commando Brigade (Elisabeth Van Dyck was a member of the RAF—or Baader-Meinhof Gang—killed by German police in 1978).

Other European government figures and prominent personalities are also under threat. On Jan. 14 Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi announced an ongoing plot to have him assassinated. "I received some signals," Craxi told the press, "some threats coming from people who would like to kill me." He referred to comments he made in December, while in Cairo meeting with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (at a time when Craxi was the only Western leader publicly to give credence to Mubarak's revelations that Libyan dictator Qaddafi was running assassination squads against former Libyan Prime Minister Bakouh). At that time, Craxi said, he had "already stated that there was information on a new terrorist wave in a revolutionary international context in Western Europe."

Several West German newspapers warned on Jan. 19 that the RAF has issued assassination orders against former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. Schmidt, who was vacationing in the Spanish Canary Islands, was placed under tight security protection. The villa where he was staying was surrounded by machine-gun toting German and Spanish guards, while the only road leading to the villa was patrolled by the Spanish Civil Guard, the military police.

Target: Germany

The principal target of the terror wave is the Federal Republic of Germany, the fulcrum of NATO and the focus of Soviet pressure for the decoupling of Europe from the United States. As *EIR* has reported, the terrorist escalation of the past period can only be understood as part of a Soviet pre-war deployment, in which spetsnaz (special commando force) units are used in assassination and sabotage missions to undermine the political will of the enemy. Since Dec. 17, there have been 33 bombings of U.S., NATO, and related targets in Germany, most of them claimed by the RAF.

The most recent attempt was on Jan. 21, when a leading member of the RAF blew himself up in Stuttgart, as a bomb carried in a baby carriage exploded prematurely, killing the terrorist and seriously injuring his woman accomplice. Attorney General Kurt Rebmann reported that Johannes Thimme, who was blown to pieces when the bomb went off, had been sentenced in 1981 to an 18-month prison term for recruiting for the RAF.

The immediate target of the bomb was the German Association for Air and Space Research, the institution that will coordinate German participation in NASA's permanent space station. Several million dollars worth of damage was done to two corporate data-processing offices, although police sus-

pect that the bomb was also intended for nearby police barracks which house police assigned to guard prominent figures against assassinations.

RAF terrorists also struck a West Berlin building housing an insurance company and the offices of the IBM Corporation. On Jan. 19, arsonists set fire to a data-processing center in Karlsruhe, causing about \$126,000 worth of damage.

Meanwhile, the terrorist-support networks are gearing up demonstrations in support of the hunger-strikers. Three thousand people demonstrated in West Berlin, Giessen, and Göttingen on Jan. 19, rallies which included episodes of violence, and a national rally was set for Karlsruhe on Jan. 26. Support for the RAF is coming from, among others, the West German Green Party, whose leader Petra Kelly has been on tour in the United States during January (see page 38).

Backing for the strikers is also coming from the so-called Rainbow Caucus in the European Parliament in Strasburg—the Greens and assorted other pro-terrorist groupings that are taking full advantage of their parliamentary immunity from prosecution. One Euro-parliamentarian, Brigitte Heinrich of the German Green Party, was barred from visiting Israel in December because of her connections to the RAF. She served a prison sentence for her activities as a weapons-supplier to the terrorist gang.

Mideast terrorists join in

Increasingly, coordination among Western European terrorist groups is involving Mideastern gangs as well. On Jan. 15 the London *Times* reported a document translated from the Farsi showed that Iran had dispatched 1,000 kamikaze hitmen to operate in the West—particularly West Germany, France, Great Britain, and the United States.

On Jan. 16, from Tripoli, Lebanon, Sheikh Chaban, leader of the terrorist Sunni group Islamic Unity Movement, declared that “in a few days” his group would hit the United States in its own territory.

Then on Jan. 17, a former colonel in Khomeini’s Savama secret police told the Italian press he was involved as a “communications and explosives specialist” in training European terrorists—“left” and “right”—near Teheran, on the campus of the former Melli University.

All this followed by a few days the revelation from an executive committee member of the PLO that Syrian terrorists, targeting diplomats of moderate Arab nations and lending support to European terrorists, are already in place in Europe, operating between France and Germany, provided with Cuban equipment.

Further, Action Directe, now “formally” in alliance with the RAF to drive the United States from Europe, is known to have operational ties to the Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Faction, part of George Habash’s Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. A representative of the PFLP, Bassam Abu Sharif, gave an interview to the German pro-terrorist rag *tageszeitung* proclaiming his organization’s solidarity with the goals of the RAF.

Green Party’s Kelly

by Vin Berg

A nuclear freeze teach-in at New York University in Manhattan featuring West German Green Party leader Petra Kelly was thrown into an uproar on Jan. 18 when American and European representatives of the Schiller Institute denounced the Greens’ Nazi sympathies to an 800-person audience.

Billed as a forum against “first strike” weapons, the NYU event was sponsored by the Disarm Fund, headed by Ramsey Clark, the former U. S. attorney general who marched in the streets of Teheran in support of Ayatollah Khomeini in 1979 and has otherwise distinguished himself as a lawyer for terrorists. Other speakers included Daniel Ellsberg, the CIA covert-operations officer turned environmentalist; Herbert Scoville, a leading opponent of U.S. development of beam-weapon defenses, the Strategic Defense Initiative; and retired NATO Gen. Gerd Bastian. The purpose of the meeting was to portray President Reagan’s Strategic Defense Initiative as part of a U.S. plan for a first strike against the Soviet Union.

What kind of activities Clark and Co. are entertaining was suggested by Kelly. Denouncing “Star Wars,” Kelly called the Reagan administration “illegal” and demanded civil disobedience to block U. S. development of beam technology. “We must become unruleable,” she cried, a call seconded by Clark which brought a standing ovation from the assortment of old Communist Party members, aging “New Leftists,” nuclear freezeniks, and lesbians who made up the bulk of the audience.

What is Petra Kelly

Kelly was allowed into the United States by the State Department, despite documentation provided by the Schiller Institute that her Green Party is riddled with old Nazis, espouses Nazi ideology, and advocates violence—all grounds for denying a visa under U.S. law. Kelly herself is a case in point. She hates industry, science, technology, Western civilization, and the United States. She is a fascist, and an asset of the Soviet KGB.

She was born Petra Karin Lehmann in Günzburg, West Germany in 1947. Her mother remarried an American officer named Kelly, and they moved to Fort Benning, Georgia. Her first father, annoyed at his four-year-old’s repeated requests for a doll, hung a sign around her neck: “This child is for sale.” She stood wearing it in the marketplace. “And then no