

A Green Trap Germans Should Not Walk Into

by Rainer Apel

When the “red-green” alliance of Social Democrats (SPD) and Greens fell apart in the Summer of 2005, there was hope that it would also mean the end of the seven-year nightmare of irrational pro-ecology government policies since 1998, the most spectacular incident being the decision, in 2000, to exit from nuclear power totally, by 2021. There was hope that the campaign against the “locust” funds, the hedge and equity funds, which the Social Democrats waged during that election Summer, would bring the SPD back to a pro-industrial orientation. But only a few weeks after the September 2005 election, which resulted in a Grand Coalition government, the “young SPD” staged a coup against party chairman Franz Müntefering, the author of the anti-“locust” polemics, replacing him and a good part of the party executive with ecological fanatics. One year after that, this new SPD leadership presented a draft for a party program, which proclaimed an arrangement with the very locust funds that had been attacked.

The degree to which the “new” SPD is out of touch with reality, can be seen in their assessment that the U.S. elections of November 2006 were won by the Al Gore-George Soros faction.

The other established political parties of Germany are also getting brainwashed into the perception that “alternative” technologies are the treasures of the future. The Greens have always opposed nuclear technology and industrial production, and this also goes for the Linkspartei, a conglomerate of leftists and radical ecologists formed in the Spring of 2005. The liberal Free Democrats, who were at least verbal supporters of nuclear power, are becoming an ecology party, as are the two Christian Democratic parties, the CDU and CSU.

Both parties, the CDU (which is present in 15 of the 16 German states) and the CSU (the autonomous Christian Democrats’ section in Bavaria) are preparing new party platforms, and special attention should be paid to the role of outright neo-cons. The drive for biofuels has been visible in interviews given by CDU chairwoman and Chancellor of Germany Angela Merkel, as well as Hamburg Mayor Ole von Beust, since mid-January. Merkel has reiterated her view that “global warming” and the CO₂ emissions represent a threat to mankind no less powerful than Islamic terrorism, in speeches at the Munich Security Conference (Feb. 10) and the European Parliament (Feb. 13), and at a meeting with Britain’s Prime Minister Tony Blair in Berlin on Feb. 14. “We will have a new generation of biofuels,” Merkel said, adding that she

wants to make the June G-8 Summit in Heiligendamm, Germany, a “breakthrough for climate protection.”

Follow the Money Trail

Von Beust has said repeatedly in interviews that he was influenced by Al Gore’s book and movie, *An Inconvenient Truth*; North Rhine-Westphalia governor Jürgen Rüttgers, a fan of California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, said the latter’s decrees against pollution have impressed him very much. Arnie has been advised by Hermann Scheer, the Social Democrats’ guru of solar energy, and president of Euro-Solar, the umbrella organization of solar energy firms in Europe. Furthermore, hardline neo-con Friedbert Pflueger, in Berlin on Feb. 9, denounced nuclear power as a “transition technology that man cannot master,” advocating that the CDU “must become much greener.” On Feb. 13, Markus Soeder, party manager of the CSU, said that “industry will make a lot of money, with environmental products.” Marie-Luise Doett, chief ecology affairs spokeswoman of the CDU in the national parliament, is also a leading sponsor of the INSM, the prime neo-con propaganda lobby for social welfare takedown in Germany.

The remarks by the latter two politicians provide a hint about the origins of this “greening” of the Christian Democrats, namely the banking and corporate interests behind the biofuels drive, with hedge and equity funds pumping tens of billions of dollars into “green” technology.

Greenies Oppose Roosevelt’s New Deal

But with the aforementioned Hermann Scheer, the situation turns even more revealing. In the late 1990s, Scheer said that the state should launch a job-creation scheme on the basis of a giant biomass program funded by the ecology tax and other taxes. About 600,000 new jobs could be created by such a program, which Scheer claimed was the “only meaningful” way of dealing with rising mass unemployment and the decline of traditional industry. He argued that whereas during the Great Depression, Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal focused on creating jobs in industry and infrastructure, the solution today has to be through post-industrial, pro-ecology projects—“a Green New Deal.”

One of Scheer’s closest allies inside the SPD is Andrea Nahles, who launched the inner-party coup against Müntefering in 2005. An anti-Roosevelt thrust is the core of this policy, which has intensified since the U.S. midterm elections. During the Spring of 2005, a number of articles in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*, the daily mouthpiece of the monetarist banking interests, noted that the revival of FDR’s tradition in Germany is the goal of the LaRouche movement.

The challenge will be accepted by the LaRouche movement in Germany, which is issuing a pamphlet that will identify the powers behind the destabilization of Germany, and will warn Germans against walking into the “green” trap laid out by the “locust” funds.