

Europe's Biggest Fascist Praises Mao

Sept. 6 (IPS) — Franz Josef Strauss, corpulent chairman of the extreme rightwing of West Germany's Christian Democracy, the Bavarian-based Christian Social Union, is throwing his redoubtable weight behind the anti-Soviet paranoia of the People's Republic of China. As the latest issue of his press organ, the *Bayernkurier*, indicates, Strauss' sudden interest in Mao Tse-tung thought represents not a "left turn" but his bid to become the NATO-approved fascist dictator of West Germany.

In recent months Strauss has moved more and more openly to rejuvenate his habitual Cold War anti-communism with an alliance with what he terms "free socialism" — represented by Chairman Mao and petit-bourgeois creations of the Dubcek/Solzhenitsyn stripe. This innovation in Strauss' political alignments could never originate in him alone. Without CIA encouragement, Strauss would never have linked up with the representatives of "Socialism with a human face," the ideological salesmen of the 1968 Dubcek government in Czechoslovakia. Earlier, the CIA had attempted to use

Czechoslovakia as a wedge for NATO penetration into the Soviet Bloc. Strauss' simultaneous flirtation with ultra-left Maoism and old Dubcekites introduces a new form of the audacious Cold War strategy of "roll-back" — this time with a coterie of CIA-led "radical socialists" providing calculated "left" cover.

Strauss' popular support is confined at present to the numerous but politically powerless farming population of Bavaria and to a few large but isolated anti-communist refugee organizations across West Germany. Strauss is attempting to pull this diffuse base together, while directing his efforts to win the favor of Europe's NATO commanders.

Several million West German workers around the Social Democratic Party well remember Strauss as the chubby buffoon who got himself thrown out of the position of Defense Minister in the early 1960s after his reputation was tarnished in a great Watergate-style scandal of the post war era. Even the widespread attention which Franz Josef is receiving now from enraged

From the Sept. 5 *Bayernkurier*

"The Road to Weimar"

"Certainly Bonn today is not yet Weimar. But the signs of the times show that it is on the quickest road to Weimar. Not because a new 1933 stands before us, but rather because today the miserable practice of the government... is beginning to, if not destroy our peoples' loyalty to democracy, certainly call it into question...."

"... The criminal arrogance of functionaries, the self-satisfaction of the arrivistes, the manipulation — as cool as it is brutal — by a self-congratulating power, all are fatally reminiscent of the situation in 1923-32. For young people there seems nothing left but the choice between fascism and communism, but not the necessary belief in a played-out democracy."

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"Democracy and Freedom: On the Ungovernability of the World"

"... It seems like an irony of history that the progressive New York Times, the world's most influential reacher of the left-liberal camp, was the first to publish an analysis of the state of world democracy which was full of the deepest pessimism. Its significant lead article, by James Reston, judged the situation in the following

words: 'The political decay of the West is no longer one position in a theoretical debate; it is sick reality.'

"... In Giornale d'Italia Aurelio Peccei, founder of the Club of Rome, complained that the 'art of ruling' has been lost, and he has announced a new study on the autarchic crisis of governments. Thus the problems of a world that has become ungovernable promises to become as fruitful an area for research as environmental protection...."

"... Today, there are no more real leaders except for Mao Tse-tung"

"... People in Western civilization are less and less ready to suffer pain themselves. Therefore [one social scientist] foresees that the world's population will react with social revolt if world development were to be steered, in view of the raw materials and energy crises, towards 'Zero Growth'...."

"... This takes up the theme which played a great role in every discussion in England and Switzerland about the decline of democracy in Europe during the 1930s when rightwing dictatorships were spreading throughout Europe. At that time the argument cropped up again and again — that a democracy is not viable if it does not impose self-restrictions on its citizens and interest groups...."

farmers is largely the result of the frightening political vacuum created by constant capitulation to anti-detente pro-Rockefeller demands by the present leadership of the working-class-based Social Democracy.

But now Strauss is basking in renewed approval from his old NATO cronies. This, in fact, is his only source of political strength. Yet the only sure ally Strauss can count on is senile Mao! Strauss' future success depends on the demoralization and defeat of West German workers. If NATO strategy, and not the West German working class, is routed in the next few crucial months, NATO will detach itself from Strauss as rapidly as before.

For the moment Strauss is moving with startling

speed. The lead article in the Sept. 5 issue of his *Bayernkurier*, titled "The Road to Weimar," remarks that once again the choice appears to be communism or fascism. In another piece in the same paper Strauss' preference is outlined in chillingly direct fashion. This second article, "On the Ungovernability of the World," argues that democracy can function only if it can force the population to make the necessary heavy sacrifices. And the nature of those sacrifices? The bestialization of Zero Growth, no doubt including cannibalism as advocated by Rockefeller's chief cannibal, Aurelio Peccei of the Club of Rome, who is warmly praised in the same article. If democracy fails, then a strong leader — "like Mao" — will be necessary to carry out the grisly task.

CIA "Red Scare," Spy Scandals Activated in West Germany

Sept. 6 (IPS) — In the wake of the CIA's Guillaume fraud, West Germany is now being subjected to a re-run of "red scare," anti-Communist spy scandals of the type which swept Britain last January — and which in Britain lead to repeated military occupations of airports and residential communities.

Within a matter of days this week, a leading member of the West German National Public Workers Union was arrested as an East German spy; the head of the capitalist Free Democratic Party in the city of Hamburg came under sudden suspicion for his longterm membership in an East-West friendship society; finally, banner headlines in every German daily September 5 announced that dozens of rockets had been stolen from an American base! Accompanying this report was the estimation of security forces that "Arab agents in Germany are operating with the intention of attacking American military bases."

A lower-level West German internal security official made clear that the "Red Scare" has only begun. He told the rightwing Springer daily *Die Welt* that "less than 10 per cent of the active agents here are apprehended." These dubious disclosures are taking place against a

backdrop of the increasingly brazen anti-Soviet speeches of fascist Franz Josef Strauss of the Bavarian Christian Social Union.

The West German working class, now preparing for a large-scale confrontation over wages and jobs as contract negotiations for several million workers get underway, is neither anti-Communist nor anti-Soviet. The West German and NATO security agents who are discovering rafts of new "spies" know that the working class and its parties are increasingly open to socialist reorganization of the economy they see collapsing.

Nonetheless, the spy scandals must rapidly lead to political discrediting and collapse of the present Social Democratic (SPD) government. The collapse of the SPD government will be the opening salvo of direct attacks on the working class this fall. At that point, NATO and West German intelligence will exploit the chaos and fear they have aroused by generating spy hysteria in the SPD. To the applause of the bourgeois press, these Rockefeller agents will try to convince workers that there is no point fighting politically when spying and anti-Soviet panic can rise and destroy governments.