

far below the level of simple reproduction, which is 2.2.

The point is that Schmidt has chosen not to use the election as a forum of mass education around the leading strategic and economic issues, beyond the level of the general briefing summarized above. In his appearances he is rather more concerned with projecting an image, that of the sober, self-controlled statesman-like, reliable steward of the public interest, all in comparison to Strauss, who is none of these.

This strategy means that Schmidt has tied his own hands in a critical period. It is well known that Schmidt's attitude towards "unpredictable" President Carter is one of personal loathing, and deep distrust; nevertheless, Schmidt is careful to keep these well-known facts under wraps during the campaign, lest he offer grist for Strauss's mill. Behind the scenes, an official of the Bonn coalition predicted that until Oct. 5, Schmidt would avoid all overt clashes with Carter. But after that, he said, there would be a series of extremely tough confrontations between Bonn and Washington, growing more out of the predictable course of events than out of any special plan of Schmidt's.

He characterized the Bonn government as sick and tired of receiving ultimata from Washington, and said that he was eagerly awaiting the day when Schmidt or some other member of the cabinet would tell Carter to go to hell. For this, a united Europe would be necessary, but, he added bitterly, some countries, like Italy, are little better than colonies of the United States. In Italy, the Americans have erected an iron curtain against the necessary "historical compromise" between Christian Democrats and Communists, he said, and it is the Americans who need constant terrorism to make sure that the PCI is kept out of the government. Kissinger is the evil spirit who curses at the German détente with the East, the *Ostpolitik*, he went on. Pretty soon, he concluded, the French and the Germans are going to get together with the Soviet Union and impose a solution on the Middle East in coherence with European interests.

Top officials of the Bonn coalition are known to consider Zbigniew Brzezinski a dangerous lunatic, and to keep certain artifacts of Brzezinski's more crack-brained escapades on prominent display in their offices, where they can be ridiculed for the amusement of visiting officials and guests.

Unfortunately, not much of this is allowed to seep out in public, despite the fact that people are more than ready to hear it. At high-point in the recent Polish crisis, Schmidt showed the extent to which he underestimates the political maturity of the population here. Helmut Kohl, the CDU chairman, and Strauss had both demanded that Schmidt declare his full support of the Polish strike movement, and that he deny the Warsaw government a DM 1.4 billion loan that had been floated by a consortium of German banks. Schmidt, thinking

himself very sly, rejected the opposition demands, saying that he agreed instead with President Carter that interventions into the Polish situation should be kept to a minimum, and adding that he had just received a letter from Carter recommending that Western economic help to Poland should be increased, not cut.

Schmidt may have cleverly boxed in the hapless Kohl and Strauss, but many intelligent Germans perceived these remarks as the cheap election trick they were. One veteran SPD factory councilor in a steel mill in the Saarland told this writer: "We've had it up to here with letters from Washington telling our government what to do, and Schmidt should have said so." Despite deep popular loathing of the Carter administration's dangerous antics, West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's campaign for reelection has steered clear of attacks on Carter. The political mood in the electorate is increasing hostility to having Bonn pushed around by Washington. But a strange taboo has descended on this question in the past few months.

One index is this year's Autumn Forge maneuvers, which are billed as the biggest war games on German soil

## Der Spiegel attacks the EAP

The West German magazine *Der Spiegel* prominently features in its Sept. 22 issue an article entitled "Dark Forces," which characterized the European Labor Party (EAP) as rightwing and Nazi, mysteriously supported by both the CIA and KGB. The EAP's leading candidate in the October elections is Helga Zepp-LaRouche, wife of the American political leader Lyndon LaRouche.

*Der Spiegel* accuses Mr. LaRouche of brainwashing his supporters through "deep analytical therapy" and "endless interrogations with deprivation of sleep and food . . . a political Jim Jones."

*Der Spiegel* is a left-liberal magazine whose editor, Rudolph Augstein, was arrested in Italy last year on drug charges.

The EAP has issued a leaflet pointing out that "the original source of most of the lies in this week's *Der Spiegel* is the weekly New York City newspaper *Our Town*, whose editor is Ed Kayatt, a convicted felon who served time in prison for fraud involving U.S. government bonds." Kayatt, the leaflet continues, is a protégé of Roy Cohn, a lawyer whose first claim to fame was his participation in the McCarthy witch-hunts of the 1950s and who now distinguishes himself as a lawyer for international organized crime members.