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## CONFERENCE REPORT

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# German Social Dems join the Warsaw Pact— on orders from the U.S. Establishment

by Rainer Apel and Susan Welsh

Americans who are furious at Western Europe's Neville Chamberlain-style appeasement of the Soviet Union should take a close look at what happened at the national conference of West Germany's Social Democratic Party (SPD) in Essen May 17-21. The marching orders for decoupling Europe from the United States came from leading representatives of that treasonous bunch known as the U.S. Eastern Establishment. Paul Warnke, former U.S. chief arms negotiator in the Carter administration and a backer of West Germany's fascist-environmentalist Green Party, delivered the keynote speech—a blast against “space weapons” and the deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe. Egon Bahr, the architect of the SPD's famous “opening to the East” and its leading advocate of a reunified Germany under the Soviet umbrella, supported Warnke and cited Henry A. Kissinger as the authority for his call for a new “grand strategy” for a Europe decoupled from the U.S.A.

The Essen conference took place as the government of Christian Democratic Chancellor Helmut Kohl has entered what could prove to be a terminal cabinet crisis, provoked when the Free Democratic Party, Kohl's coalition partner, unexpectedly deserted the chancellor May 16 over a parliamentary vote on amnesty for politicians charged with violation of tax laws. The proceedings of the Essen conference show what is in store if Kohl's government falls and the Social Democrats return to power in Bonn.

The SPD has entered the second phase of the operation which began with the toppling of Chancellor Helmut Schmidt in the fall of 1982. At that time, the SPD left wing wanted to pull the party out of government and into the opposition, to push it toward an alliance with the Greens and the Soviet Union and destroy what remained of the party's anti-environmentalist trade-union base. Six months before Schmidt's fall, a leading Eastern Establishment figure and Carter administration official called the shots in a private discussion reported to *EIR*: “When Schmidt falls, he will go slowly with a great deal of agony. And if he falls, the SPD will undergo a transformation. It will move to the left and lose its center.”

That transformation is now complete, thanks to the efforts of Warnke, Kissinger, and other members of the Eastern Establishment. The SPD is now set to relaunch its bid for

power, on the basis of the Essen conference resolutions which called for:

- an “international treaty to ban anti-satellite and anti-ballistic-missile systems from space,” including a special appeal to the Bonn government to throw its weight in NATO against President Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative;
- a ban on the first use of nuclear weapons;
- withdrawal of U.S. Pershing II missiles from West Germany;
- a freeze on military budgets for three years at 1983 levels—a proposal disingenuously put forward by the Warsaw Pact;
- the elimination from German armaments programs of “all weapons technologies which could be conceived of as offensive”;
- the establishment of “a European peace order which helps to overcome the existing military blocs.” This would include creating a nuclear-free zone in Central Europe, on the recommendation of the Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme's Independent Commission on Disarmament and Security Issues—a proposal drafted by KGB official Georgi Arbatov and conduited to Olof Palme by KGB spy Arne Treholt, then an official in the Norwegian foreign ministry.

These resolutions mark a return to the neutralist views which the SPD fought for in the late 1940s and early 1950s, when some party currents opposed any re-armament of West Germany and called for an alignment with the Soviet bloc under the “common flag of socialism.”

### The U.S. appeasers and the SPD

The participation of Warnke and the aura of Kissinger at the conference are no surprise to anyone familiar with the role of the U.S. embassy in Bonn in promoting the destabilization of the Atlantic Alliance. As *EIR* has reported (e.g., “The Burns-Kissinger plot to split Germany from NATO,” Jan. 24, 1984), U.S. Ambassador Arthur Burns is collaborating with the Greens and the European decoupling faction around Britain's Lord Carrington and German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

Leading Social Democrats have always kept in contact with the U.S. Eastern Establishment. The head of the SPD's

“Basic Values Commission,” Erhard Eppler, was one of the 50 privileged Germans allowed access to Henry Kissinger’s strategic seminars at Harvard University. It was Eppler who became the guru of the SPD’s anti-nuclear tendency and is now one of the kingpins of the drive to split with NATO.

Another case in point is Egon Bahr, who worked with U.S. intelligence services in West Berlin between 1946 and 1953, and today maintains contacts to think-tanks in both the United States and the East bloc, including through the Palme Commission on disarmament of which he is a member. A key adviser to SPD chairman and former chancellor Willy Brandt for three decades, Bahr met secretly with Henry Kissinger in 1969 to plan out Brandt’s “opening to the East.” Wrote Kissinger in his memoirs: “My contact with Egon Bahr became a White House backchannel by which Nixon [sic] could manage diplomacy bypassing the State Department.”

### Warnke’s treason

Warnke was heartily welcomed to the Essen conference by SPD chairman Willy Brandt. In his keynote speech, Warnke denounced the Reagan administration’s beam-weapons defense program and blamed the U.S. deployment of the Pershing II missiles in Germany for the current crisis in East-West relations. This from a man who, along with then-Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, was involved in formulating the 1979 NATO “double-track” resolution on the Euromissiles in the first place, as part of a bargaining strategy for arms control!

Warnke told the SPD delegates that “continuing deployment of Pershing II ballistic missiles and ground-launched cruise missiles can do nothing to diminish . . . the growing nuclear threat to Europe. No matter how many additional warheads are deployed by NATO, and regardless of where they are deployed, this will not take a single Soviet warhead out of the number now aimed at NATO targets.”

Warnke insisted that it was not he and his SPD cohorts who are to blame for the splits in the Atlantic Alliance, but rather the Reagan administration’s beam-weapon defense policy which, he lied, would leave Europe in the lurch: “Reagan administration plans for a space-based ballistic missile defense of the United States would leave Europe vulnerable to Soviet Backfire bombers, cruise missiles and ballistic missiles that would come in too fast and too low for even a theoretical intercept.”

Warnke is well aware that U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger had briefed the German government on available technologies for the intercept of such Soviet weapons—a fact he failed to mention in his speech.

As for the hopes of his SPD audience for arms control talks, Warnke said that progress was ruled out for the time being: “In my opinion, the INF talks [U.S.-Soviet talks on medium-range nuclear missiles] are past history. It is extremely unlikely that they can ever be revived. But this is no great loss for the cause of nuclear arms control. There was never any sound rationale for a set of negotiations limited

only to intermediate-range nuclear missiles.” Warnke said that what was needed was another 1974 “Vladivostok-style agreement”—Henry Kissinger’s SALT agreement.

Then Warnke added slyly, “It is worth noting that, while I was involved in the SALT II negotiations, the Soviet delegation repeatedly referred to the ‘German-launched cruise missiles.’” By coincidence (or perhaps not?), this is exactly the propaganda line coming out of Moscow at this moment, according to which German access to U.S. missiles stationed in West Germany signifies the “rebirth of German militarism and revanchism” and justifies “countermeasures against this vital threat to the security of the U.S.S.R.”

Egon Bahr in his speech went still further in blaming the United States for Europe’s military crisis. The Soviet SS-22 missiles recently stationed in East Germany, he said, were put there in reply to the U.S. stationing of the Pershings. The SS-22s, with their flight-time of no more than 1.5 minutes, were meant as first-strike weapons to knock out the Pershings, and “if Washington does not change its approach, there will be no negotiations in the coming four years, but full-scale stationing.” Therefore, said Bahr, in order to reduce the risk of “someone pushing the red button first,” the United States should withdraw “all missiles stationed since December 1983” and open up to “the Andropov proposal to reduce the number of SS-20 missiles to a level which made the stationing of American missiles superfluous.”

Then Bahr hailed Henry Kissinger’s call (in *Time* magazine March 5) for a new “Grand Strategy” for NATO by which the U.S. nuclear umbrella would be lifted, U.S. ground troops withdrawn from Europe, and Europe left to defend itself from 173 Soviet divisions through a conventional arms buildup. Kissinger noted, said Bahr, “that the consensus on foreign and security policy has collapsed in the states of the West. . . . The Alliance needs a new strategy.” Bahr recommended the denuclearization of Europe: “We want a strategy which dismantles the dependency on tactical nuclear weapons through the creation of a nuclear-free corridor, and which is based more on a conventional defense capacity. . . . Approximate conventional stability is the key to growing European independence from nuclear weapons. To achieve this is of immense value for us.”

The Kissinger-Bahr program would turn Western Europe into a Soviet satrapy overnight.

The impact of this appeasement policy can be most dramatically seen in a motion presented to the party by the Ahrensburg district from the state of Schleswig-Holstein: “The results achieved between East and West through détente policy in Central Europe have undoubtedly proven that there is no danger of attack emerging from the East. Claims to the contrary are based on mere ‘enemy images’ which have nothing to do with reality.”

Egon Bahr is a member of the executive committee of the party in Schleswig-Holstein, the region of Germany which intelligence analysts agree would be the most likely target for a Soviet “surgical strike” against the West.