

## Report from Bonn by Rainer Apel

### On to confrontation

*The Kremlin's orders are delivered, and the Social Democrats and Green Party are preparing riots in the streets.*

After Chancellor Helmut Kohl used the Wehrkunde (Military Strategy) meeting in Munich to give his public support to the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative, it took a while for the significance of this to sink in among SDI opponents. Gradually, it dawned on Social Democrats and others that now, the SDI could not be stopped. What were they to do?

The Social Democratic leaders naturally turned their eyes to Moscow.

The Kremlin, compelled to acknowledge that two years of threats, intimidation, and bribery were all at once undone by Kohl's Wehrkunde statement, decided for confrontation. The Social Democrats went into action.

Yulii Israelian, Soviet arms control chief, told journalists in Geneva, "As long as the U.S.A. sticks to the SDI, there is no hope of a future for the Geneva talks." A day or two later, Egon Bahr, the Social Democrats' strategic thinker, said the same thing.

On Feb. 15, the president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, Anatolii Alexandrov, said that if the SDI went through, the Soviet "counter-strike" would hit nuclear power plants! Because the West has "a higher density of nuclear energy grids," it is possible to "circumvent any SDI effort" through the presumed effects of just a few such strikes.

Just one day later, Erhard Eppler, the head of the SPD's ethics commission, said in an interview that it seemed "quite logical" to him "that the Soviets would concentrate their efforts on the remaining five percent of the threat

potential most American experts say any missile defense system would not be capable of neutralizing. . . . Concerning West Germany, strikes against just two or four nuclear power plants would make the whole country uninhabitable."

Eppler concluded: The SDI would only protect the U.S.A. (another Soviet suggestion) and make "West Germany a nuclear hostage of the Soviet Union. . . . No defense system whatsoever could protect this country against Soviet medium- and short-range missiles."

The argument that Germany would be turned into a "nuclear hostage" has been heard before: In March 1984, when Bonn was still somewhere between skeptical and hostile to the SDI, some Social Democratic whiz kids around Bahr were forecasting "an eventual escalation around Berlin. . . or, more probable, a return to the policy of the '50s and '60s, making West Germany a strategic hostage of the Soviet strike force."

Several think-tankers in West Germany have come forward in private discussions with other, more precise scenarios. Some say that a Soviet conventional attack, or even a nuclear missile—"accidentally fired"—might hit a NATO base or nuclear power plant, just to remind the West Germans of their vulnerability. Others warned of strikes by either Soviet special forces (spetsnaz) or terrorists against bases or nuclear stations. The well-documented flow of KGB funds into the anti-nuclear movement in West Germany would permit creation of a

street-riot atmosphere to cover such acts of sabotage.

The latter scenario is now a very live threat. At the end of January, terrorists who identified themselves as "belonging to the anti-nuclear movement" blew up the electricity tower of a nuclear plant near Hamburg. Since then, Green Party leaders have stated their "basic understanding of the motives behind these attempts."

The mass movement against nuclear energy has seen a revival, too. The government's decision to build a nuclear reprocessing facility prompted the Greens to accuse the government of planning to build a nuclear bomb, using the best style of Radio Moscow: "the most aggressive project this country has seen in its entire post-war history."

On Feb. 16, 25,000 demonstrators gathered at Schwandorf in Bavaria where the facility is to be built. State Gov. Franz-Josef Strauss and others were called "murderers." With such verbiage, violence and terrorism will follow.

What does Moscow have to do with this? There were no Russians at Schwandorf! Well, a couple of days earlier, *Izvestia* called the Green Party "the only force of hope in Germany." Hope for what?

According to recent government leaks, there is massive evidence of East bloc involvement in the anti-nuclear movement. It seems high time these dossiers were made public. And, coupling these dossiers' contents with the also documented Nazi character of the Green Party, the government should not wait to ban the party under relevant provisions of the Constitution. As the European Labor Party's Helga Zepp-LaRouche has proposed, such action should be taken by not later than May 8—the date of celebration of the end of World War II.