

Editorial

Send an American ambassador to Bonn

Rumors are thick in Washington, D.C. that the new U.S. ambassador to West Germany, to take over in May when current ambassador Arthur Burns is slated to resign, will be Richard R. Burt. Burt's appointment would be a disaster for the Western alliance.

Although our sources indicate that it is very late to try to stop this appointment—which is over 90% certain—we have determined to wage a campaign to block it. Burt's is just the first of a series of ambassadorial replacements coming up in Western Europe, including France and probably Italy. And if the same thinking which went into the Burt choice continues for those of the other countries, we all might as well begin our classes in Russian.

There can be no question in the mind of any sane person about Burt's "liberal KGB" pedigree. Burt, only 37 years old, started off as a reporter for the *New York Times* and an associate at the London International Institute for Strategic Studies, the institution which has led the way in opposing the Strategic Defense Initiative and which has consistently followed the Pugwash line. Currently he is assistant secretary of state for European affairs.

All the information needed to show Burt's dubious loyalty to the United States can be found in the record of the hearings held to confirm him in his current post. Burt was branded by Sens. Goldwater, Helms, and Wallop as a security risk for having leaked classified materials to the *New York Times*.

The incident occurred in June 1979, when Burt, then a *Times* reporter, wrote an article titled "U.S. Plans New Way to Check the Soviet Missile Test." The article leaked classified information on an operational intelligence satellite system, code-named Chalet, which had been planned by the U.S. military and the NSA as a replacement for lost intelligence capabilities in Iran. Burt's article wreaked havoc with the countries who had secretly agreed to the new plan. An FBI investigation was begun which, true to the FBI's character, was never completed.

When questioned on this issue during his nomination hearings for the State Department in 1982, Burt admitted the conscious leak; he "assumed that it prob-

ably was" classified when he wrote the story.

If the relevant administration officials needed any more indication of the pro-Russian m.o. of *New York Times* reporters turned government bureaucrats, they need only look at the recent scandal around Leslie Gelb. Gelb, a *New York Times* writer who headed the State Department's Bureau of Politico-Military Affairs under Carter, was just declared *persona non grata* in his old department because he leaked classified information on U.S. war-contingency plans.

Ironically, Richard Burt's record of virtual treason is not only known to the administration, but is being used as an argument for "getting him out of the State Department" and into the most sensitive ambassadorial job in Western Europe!

It is a long and honorable custom in U.S. politics to "kick someone upstairs" when you want to get rid of him. We would hazard the view that this is one of the things wrong with the U.S. Congress right now—when the local guys got sick of certain pols, they decided they would do less damage in Washington.

Not so, of course. With a bunch of liberals, incompetents, pederasts, and outright KGB agents in the Congress, we have suffered a paralysis of government which, although not impossible to overcome, has nonetheless done plenty of damage.

Should Richard Burt be "kicked upstairs" to be ambassador in West Germany, he will not be taken out of the sensitive SDI negotiations, for example, as some patriotic conservatives may hope. Instead, like Arthur Burns, he will be in place to sabotage the SDI within West Germany's government and political system.

How this can be done has been shown par excellence by Burns. Beginning with his talking down the deutschemark, Burns has proceeded step by step to promote dialogue with the KGB-backed Greens, and to undermine the necessary offensive by Bonn against terrorism and the Soviet onslaught against the SDI.

Richard R. Burt smells like a KGB mole, looks like a mole, and runs like a mole—despite his latest posturing for the SDI in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung*. Let's treat him like a mole, and not appoint him ambassador to West Germany!