

EIR International

New terror wave breaks out in West Germany

by Rainer Apel

The terrorist bombing on Aug. 8 of an American air base in Frankfurt, West Germany, and attempted incendiary bombing on Aug. 12 of a U.S. Army troop train, also in Frankfurt, mark the shifting into a higher gear of the extremist activities of the anti-American movement.

Alarmed by the events during the second week of August, police and security authorities in Germany have warned of a new phase of "terrorism with a new quality of brutality," a brutality which they say "will make things possible which we have seen only in Lebanon, before."

The violent pace of events bears out *EIR's* repeated warnings of the dangerous consequences of the U.S. State Department-backed deal, that grants Moscow's favorite Middle East client state, Syria, the role of predominant power in the region. Two months after the June 14 hijacking of the TWA flight from Athens, which held the United States hostage for 16 days to Muslim fundamentalist terrorists, that deal has prevailed in actual policy—despite President Reagan's harsh words concerning the terrorists and the terrorist-sponsoring states of Libya and Iran.

Encouraged by the Syrian success in intimidating the United States, the European branch of the Terrorist International has run amok. In Germany, hardly a day goes by without an act of sabotage against NATO's military infrastructure, such as pipelines, railway tracks, and weapons depots, as well as civil infrastructure, such as electricity towers, transformer stations, and the like. The general level of terrorist activities has been brought to a density which is being taken for normal by the media, so much that many incidents are not even reported anymore.

The Frankfurt bomb

In the morning of Aug. 8, at about 7:15 a.m., a car bomb exploded on Rhine-Main Air Base in Frankfurt, killing two Americans and injuring another 19, some of them severely. For the first time, U.S. citizens in West Germany were killed by German terrorists.

According to security officials, the casualties would have

been even higher, had the detonation of the bomb occurred but a few minutes later, as large crowds would have been passing the site, including children of U.S. soldiers on their way to the day-care center situated right next to the site of the explosion.

"Since we can assume that the terrorists did a thorough checking of the site before," said Deputy President of the Federal Criminal Police, Gerhard Böden, "they must have known what the bomb could have done. I think this incident indicates a new kind of brutality, which does not care about human lives even of innocent people."

On Aug. 9, the terrorists sent a letter to Frankfurt news agencies, which justified the bomb attack as a "blow against the air base which serves as a launching-pad for military adventures of U.S. imperialism in the Middle East." However—the infrastructure of the base was not affected, only human beings were killed and injured by the bomb.

Preliminary police investigations produced the following modus operandi of the attack: The terrorists had probably used a false U.S. Army ID card to pass the security check and drive the car, an olive-green Volkswagen, into the air base a few minutes before 7 a.m. The car, which contained a powerful home-made bomb, was parked, and the terrorists left the base shortly before the detonation.

This was cold-blooded enough, but what police investigations uncovered, hours after the bomb explosion, was even more alarming. In the early morning, a young American was found dead in a forest near Wiesbaden, killed hours before by a shot in the neck. His ID card was missing, and later on, he was identified as 20-year-old Eduard Pimental, a U.S. soldier serving at a transport platoon in Wiesbaden.

Police immediately saw a connection to the Frankfurt bombing. It was suspected that terrorists had shot Pimental dead just to get his ID card, which was needed for entering the air base. As a matter of fact, the terrorists who had claimed responsibility for the bomb attack of Aug. 8, sent another letter to Reuters news agency in Frankfurt on Aug. 13, explaining the death of Pimental as the "justified execu-

tion of an agent of U.S. imperialism." A xerox copy of Pimental's missing ID card was appended to the cynical letter.

The new aspect of this combined assassination and bombing action was that it was carried out jointly by the German terrorist Red Army Faction (RAF) and the French terrorist group, Direct Action (AD). The two groups had already announced their collaboration in a public statement issued in Brussels weeks before, and proclaimed the formation of a "European-wide front against imperialism." The same proclamation appeared in the text of the Aug. 9 letter by which the two gangs claimed responsibility for the Frankfurt bomb.

Only a few days after the bomb attack at the Rhine-Main Air Base, terrorists attempted to set fire to a U.S. Army troop train in Frankfurt. Again, a letter was dropped into the mailboxes of news agencies in the Frankfurt region, containing the message that "this was just one of many other attacks on the military infrastructure of U.S. imperialism in Germany." The letter explained the targeting of this specific train as "a hit against the transportation structure, which brings GIs from the U.S. Berlin Brigade into West Germany and vice versa." The failed attack against the train was thus aimed at the American military presence in Germany, especially against the U.S. military in West Berlin.

The goal of the terrorists in Germany is undoubtedly identical to the goal already achieved in Lebanon: to drive the United States out of the country. "While it was the goal of terrorism in the 1970s to change the West German social system," the daily *Westdeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* commented on Aug. 9, "terrorism today is primarily directed against the presence of the U.S. military in this country. While the terrorists of the 1970s hoped for the covert or overt sympathy of the left spectrum, this time they hope for the sympathy of all those who desire Germany's withdrawal from NATO and the disappearance of U.S. forces from West German territory."

Whether intended by the West German daily or not, this description of whose sympathy the terrorists hope to win, aptly characterizes the same forces that oversaw the U.S. withdrawal from Lebanon: The Soviet Union and the U.S. State Department, both of whom are working with the extremist Green-peacenik movement in Germany, from the ranks of which the hard-core terrorist killers are recruited.

Notorious in this respect is the new U.S. ambassador to West Germany, Richard Burt, who in a speech delivered the same day as the Frankfurt car bomb exploded, stressed the importance of a "dialogue" with the West German Green Party. Addressing a New York City meeting of the American Council on Germany, Burt said he hoped for a "dialogue with the Greens and the peace movement . . . which will be one of the most difficult challenges to meet" in his position at the U.S. embassy in Bonn. He added that, since he considers himself a member of the "postwar generation," he is confident he will have "less problems in starting this dialogue."

How East Germany runs Arab terrorism

Most of "Arab" terrorism is steered from the Warsaw Pact through East Germany, using networks inherited from the Nazi regime, according to a dossier put out by the West German private intelligence newsletter, *Spuren und Motive*.

The dossier shows that:

- Permanent relations between Eastern intelligence services and Arab groups go back to the 1950s. This occurred with aid provided by the Soviet KGB, using groups that had previously belonged to the foreign networks of the Reichssicherheitshauptamt (RSHA, German Security Police) and German military intelligence. After 1945, the card catalogues of the contact networks of the RSHA in Arab countries such as Iraq, Iran, Syria, Libya, Yemen, and Egypt fell into the hands of the Soviets, provided by former RSHA agents.

The groups did not want to deal with the Soviets, for religious reasons, and instead wanted to cooperate with "the Germans." The Soviet foreign intelligence service, the KGB, interposed the Ministry for State Security (MfS) in this cooperation. All meetings then took place in East Germany—in Berlin, Dresden, Gera, Leipzig, Thale, Dessau, and Berneburg: in conspiratorial quarters, homes, or in the rooms of the universities of Leipzig, in Halle in the faculty for "Workers and Farmers," in the Plant Institute of Professor Dr. Oberdorf, or in the guest-house of the regional university of Halle. So-called friendship delegations were invited for training courses. The courses dealt with methods of obtaining information, evaluation, control and counter-control, observation, cartography, micropoint photography, technical and craft techniques, code languages, weapons instruction and technologies, explosives, and laying of mines.

- The cultivation of these contacts was under the supervision of the Chief Administration Surveillance of the MfS (in particular Departments III and VII, as well as the Departments F, N and X. Department X is responsible for the contacts among the Eastern secret services of the Warsaw Pact countries. The chief responsible departments of the KGB—in direct connection with the MfS—have been Direction S (political surveillance) together with Department I (evaluations), under Lt. Col. Boris Sammodaezon, together with Department A (disinformation), Department VIII (sab-