

## Report from Bonn by Rainer Apel

### Marines should visit Richard Burt

*U.S. diplomats helped to set up President Reagan for trouble in West Berlin.*

Imagine an ambassador to another country making friends with terrorists against your own country. Could this ever be real?

It is, with the current U.S. ambassador to Bonn, Richard Burt, and also with the current head of the U.S. Mission in Berlin, John C. Kornblum.

On Dec. 4, 1986, Burt spent hours discussing with youth in Berlin, not arguing at all against their distorted image of President Reagan and his policy. Instead, he encouraged them in their protest, confessing he had been "a leftist" himself, from the time he "spent at college." This talk was grist for the mills of the anti-defense movement, which is mainly a movement against President Reagan directly.

The same is true of Kornblum, who stated at various events in Berlin that the "United States never really intended to station troops in Europe."

Back to Richard Burt's "time at college": On May 29, 1987, he dined with some German guests at the U.S. embassy in Bonn. The guests, members of the pro-terrorist Green Party, included Petra Kelly, and as it turned out, Burt "knows her well from the time spent jointly at college in the States." This was the same Petra Kelly who was scheduled to address a mass rally of 100,000 against Reagan in Bonn on June 13, for which the West German anti-defense movement had been mobilizing nationwide. Also Kornblum knows Petra Kelly well: While working at the Central Europe desk at the U.S. State Department, he helped her set up meetings with Amer-

ican officials in 1983.

While Burt and Kelly were dining in Bonn, President Reagan was the target of a mass mobilization of Berlin radicals, protesting his June 12 visit to the city. Because of the constant inflow of radicals from all over Germany for this "event," police were, as of June 11, seriously concerned about Reagan's safety during his stay.

This concern was more than justified. Ever since the Soviet-sponsored May Day insurrection in Berlin-Kreuzberg, the city has been in upheaval. More than 130 groups in the socialist, anti-imperialistic spectrum, have been mobilizing since for a "show of resistance against Reagan." The Moscow-controlled Socialist Unity Party (SEW) and its many front organizations prominently staffed the committee planning this staged mass protest.

Effigies of Reagan, with a noose around the neck, were displayed in underground bookstores in Berlin-Kreuzberg. Leaflets (many were likely produced in the print-shops of the SEW) attacked Reagan as a "symbol of aggressive war plans of the United States against the East," announcing "resistance of the Berlin population against this warmonger."

On June 8, extremists almost set a U.S. Army train with ammunition to fire. This was foiled only by an emergency-brake maneuver, when the train engineer suddenly spotted a steel chain drawn across the tracks, with burning tires fixed on them. Later on, Berlin police found a threatening leaflet: "Fire

and Flame for the U.S. President."

Also the German "RAF" terrorist group had leaflets distributed all over the city, announcing "a devastating blow against the representative of the war-machine of U.S. imperialism." Below a portrait of RAF founder Ulrike Meinhof, the leaflet called: "Come and fight with us!" Whether it was bombs, molotov cocktails, or stones talked about here, advance presidential security, arriving a few days before Reagan in the city, and Berlin police took these threats seriously. They had an extra bullet-proof glass shield installed at the podium from which Reagan was to address 20,000 citizens on June 12.

The Soviet puppet regime in East Germany, which is pulling the strings behind most of these riots, got active in a direct way, warning the U.S. President: Behave, while you're here, or else! On June 10, the official East German news agency ADN warned Reagan to "refrain from any remarks on the partition of Germany and the city of Berlin" in his June 12 address. Knowing that he was planning to address the question of the Berlin Wall, ADN warned Reagan he "should know what many here in Berlin know: that any calls for pulling down the Wall will not bring it down, but will rather make it even higher."

For six weeks after the May Day riots, the two highest-ranking U.S. diplomats in Germany, Ambassador Burt in Bonn, and Mission Chief in Berlin Kornblum, have watched all of these threats building up against President Reagan, and taken no initiatives to root out this hot-bed of terrorism and Eastern agency in Berlin—which is easy to do, as the city is Allied territory, and therefore also subject to U.S. martial law. Before sending the U.S. Marines into Berlin, they'd better be sent into Burt's office in Bonn, apparently.