Anglo elite woos neutralist admiral

by Mark Burdman

West Germany's Adm. Elmar Schmähling, an outspoken advocate of pulling American troops out of West Germany and of a neutralist option for the Federal Republic, is being cultivated at the highest levels of the Anglo-American Establishment. This is the same Establishment which is so obsessed these days with bashing the Germans, ostensibly for not doing enough for the Western alliance.

Schmähling, an active-duty admiral who is the director of the Office for Studies and Exercises of the Bundeswehr, spoke on April 29 at a policy forum in Washington, D.C., where he was the guest of William Colby, former head of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

On May 18, Schmähling is scheduled to be one of the speakers at a seminar at London's Royal Society of Arts. The event is a "Naval Arms Control Conference" on the theme, "INF at Sea?" Among those scheduled to join Admiral Schmähling on the podium are Adm. Sir James Eberle, director of the prestigious



Adm. Elmar Schmähling

Royal Institute of International Affairs (also known as Chatham House); John Lehman, former U.S. Navy Secretary; Vladimir Kulagin, deputy head, Research Coordination Center, Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Jan Prawitz, Special Assistant for Disarmament to the Swedish Minister of Defense; U.K. Rear Admiral J.R. Hill, editor of *Naval Review*; and William Arkin of the Washington, D.C. Institute for Policy Studies.

In bed with Greenpeace

The May 18 event marks a new departure in British liberal Establishment activity, beyond the fact that the neutralist Admiral Schmähling is being so prominently featured. Officially, the conference is being sponsored by the U.K.'s

Council for Arms Control, a group of influentials from the academic, church, diplomatic, and political communities, founded in 1981. However, the conference is officially being held *on behalf of Greenpeace*, the ecologist-terrorist group which has openly evolved into an asset of the Soviet Union!

The idea for the conference came from Greenpeace-U.K.'s "Nuclear-Free Seas" program. Greenpeace leaders approached the Council for Arms Control, asking that it organize a conference on the above-stated theme, and claiming that establishing the infrastructure for such an event was beyond Greenpeace's capabilities and resources. The Council happily obliged. One Council source called this a "contractual arrangement with Greenpeace."

This places some of the senior figures of the British political and military Establishment in bed with Greenpeace. Council chairman General Sir Hugh Beach was formerly director, Army Staff Duties, in the British Ministry of Defense. He is reportedly intimate with the pro-Soviet hierarchy of the Church of England, centered around Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie. Other members of the Council board include former Foreign Secretary Denis Healey (of the Labour Party); Lord Mayhew; Bishop Hugh Montefiore, prominent in the Church of England hierarchy; John Roper of the Royal Institute; Sir Sigmund Sternberg; and former English-Speaking Union Alan Lee Williams (now at Toynbee Hall in London).

The May 18 event in London would not be the first time Schmähling has been caught working with the Greenpeace fanatics. During the month of April, he attended a conference in Denmark, at which a campaign was launched to stop the U.S. battleship *Iowa*, equipped with nuclear-tipped cruise missiles, from entering the Baltic Sea in June of this year, to join NATO maneuvers there. At this conference, Schmähling personally denounced the planned presence of the ship in the Baltic. Following the conference, a senior commentator for the left-radical newspaper *Information*, Jürgen Dragsdahl, wrote an editorial April 12, warning the *Iowa* against coming into the Baltic and endorsing Greenpeace's Nuclear-Free Seas program. Dragsdahl explicitly called on Greenpeace and affiliated groups to do whatever would be necessary to stop the *Iowa*'s deployment.

Coincidence or not, this campaign began only a few days before the *Iowa*'s No. 2 gun-turret blew up off the coast of Puerto Rico on April 19, killing 47 U.S. sailors. Schmähling was asked at a press conference in Washington, D.C. on April 29, "If it were discovered that the explosion was the result of sabotage, would you regret the fact that your remarks might have contributed to that incident?" The admiral replied, "Since it is a hypothetical question, I will not answer it." But he did admit that he had spoken out against the *Iowa*'s participation in the Baltic maneuvers. "I didn't think it was a good idea to have a nuclear-armed ship showing up in this area, when the West Germans are trying to talk about nuclear disarmament," he said.