

Threats to German reunification

*Chancellor Kohl's policy is targeted by disinformation, sabotage, terrorists.
Rainer Apel reports from Wiesbaden.*

To all who had expected that West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's policy on the German issue would be hailed by the voters in the two state elections of Lower Saxony and North Rhine-Westphalia on May 13, the election results came as a shock. Kohl's party, the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), lost the first state and were not able to reconquer the second. The chancellor's parliamentary opposition, the Social Democrats (SPD), won in both elections, which had 40% of the entire West German electorate going to the polls, and had been billed as a trial run for the Dec. 2 elections for the federal West German parliament.

As for the reasons for this election defeat of Kohl's party, the disinformation campaign among voters launched by the SPD, the majority of the media, and the communist PDS in East Germany, about the alleged "costs" of German reunification, is said to be the decisive one.

Apart from the bad omen for the December elections, the vote result on May 13 creates serious problems for Kohl's coalition government with the liberal Free Democratic Party over the next six to seven months. His own parliamentary majority of Christian Democrats and liberals in the parliament (Bundestag) now runs up against a majority of 23 to 18 seats of Social Democrats and Greens in the council of states (Bundesrat).

Most alarming, is the fact that the Social Democrats were able to reconquer Lower Saxony, which they lost to the Christian Democrats 14 years ago, on the basis of a radical-ecologist campaign platform. The intentions of the new governor, Gerhard Schroeder (SPD), for Lower Saxony are underlined by the fact that the longtime head of the West German section of the Greenpeace organization, Mrs. Monika Griefahn, will be appointed the new state minister of environmental affairs.

A dual-power situation

More than the fact that the SPD was able to stay in power in the state of North Rhine-Westphalia, the industrial heartland of West Germany, the change in Lower Saxony indicates trouble to come. Election winner Schroeder is a staunch follower of Oskar Lafontaine, the Social Democrats' designated candidate for chancellor, who is a man of radical-ecologist views and, in terms of general world outlook, a

German variant of the Russian *raskolnik*, who hates the West, and Americans most of all.

Ironically, Lafontaine has influential friends not only in Moscow, but also in the Anglo-American world, in spite of his anti-Western views—friends among those policymaking circles who consider Chancellor Kohl's Germany policy a threat to their own "balance of power" games in Europe. The election victory of Lafontaine's tendency in Lower Saxony will be interpreted by these circles as a prelude to Kohl's fall and replacement as chancellor in Bonn, as an open flank for additional maneuvers of sabotage against the chancellor's policy over the next few weeks.

The new dual-power situation in West Germany—the CDU/CSU dominating Bonn, but the SPD dominating in the majority of the 11 states—means that from the viewpoint of national interest (reunification and related issues), nothing will work if there isn't a fundamental policy consensus between the two big political parties. If the consensus does not work, it means paralysis during the highly critical initial phase of reconstruction of the East German economy, and strategic weakness of West Germany in the coming rounds of international talks on the future of the Germans. This would have a negative effect on domestic West German stability, because of the high stakes put by Kohl on the German reunification issue.

Kohl, seeing that threat, charged the Social Democrats with an "irresponsible strategy in respect to national interests." Kohl holds that the pace toward reunification must be kept, and even accelerated, because, as many indicators point to a worsening of the world strategic and East bloc economic-social situation, it is "better to have the hay in the barn before the storm arrives," he told the parliamentary group of his Christian Democrats in Bonn on May 14. Under the fresh shock of his party's two election defeats on May 13, Kohl even changed his original views and now endorses early all-German elections, to take place by the end of this year. With at least 75% of the East German electorate in favor of rapid reunification, Kohl expects to balance the substantial anti-unity sentiment in the West and create an accomplished fact that nobody, inside or outside Germany, can put in question any longer.

Any slowing down of the pace would make German reunification more difficult, eventually even impossible to achieve in the short run; severe political unrest and instability, caused by a delay of economic recovery in East Germany, would be the result in West Germany.

Instability is what the Soviet KGB needs to succeed in its present efforts to build a new network of disruption and sabotage in West Germany.

‘Operation Trojan Horse’

The East German communist party, the SED, which was shaken by the first revolution last October and survived in power under the changed name PDS for another six months until the March 18 elections for East German parliament, has operated successfully over this period to achieve two essential objectives: 1) preventing a second revolution that would wipe out the remains of the party and its underground apparatus; and 2) preparing the transfer of a significant part of the party’s former power apparatus into West Germany, giving the Kremlin a strong leverage against the West German government.

This “Operation Trojan Horse” is to provide the KGB with an efficient instrument to manipulate the pace and conditions of German reunification at Moscow’s will, and with a tool for later use in a united German state, to pull Germany into the Soviet camp—an old strategic objective of both czarist and post-revolutionary Russian policy.

Operation Trojan Horse involves numerous—Western intelligence sources speak of up to 8,500—specialists of the former East German foreign intelligence, with skills in sabotage, penetration, and disinformation. These were pulled out from their previous posts during the October 1989 revolution and the months after, and reassigned to the new operation inside West Germany. The operation is overseen by Gen. Markus “Mischa” Wolf, the longtime head of the East German foreign intelligence, who “quit” his intelligence job in late 1986, built his new image as a “dissident,” and periodically even popped up as a leading spokesman of the new PDS communist party apparatus, during the hot phase of the East German revolution of late 1989.

Then, presumably since January this year, Wolf chose exile status in Moscow (he actually has had Soviet citizenship since 1938) for several months, to prepare the groundwork for Operation Trojan Horse in West Germany. His project has three elements:

1) The remains of the old espionage and agency network in West Germany, an estimated 5,000 persons, are to be kept intact and transferred to the new underground command.

2) A new underground network of disinformation and sabotage is to be built, based on the aforementioned hard core of the former foreign intelligence apparatus. These persons are entering West Germany with false passports and a new identity.

3) An aboveground structure is to be formed for opera-

tions in the parliaments and for anti-parliamentarian actions in the streets, consisting of the PDS, the remains of the West German Communist Party (DKP), the Greens, radical socialist groups, and the network of terrorism supporters at-large.

Old insurrection tactics

During the month of May, the first aspects of the third element became visible in West Germany, around the broad mobilization of the radical and extreme left against German reunification. The mobilization, which began May 1 under the slogan, “No to a Fourth Reich,” involves the remains of the DKP and its front groups like the VVN, the extremist wing of the Greens, the urban rioters and squatters movement, and the pro-terrorist underground, all of which are being wooed by the East German PDS in a plan for a merger into a new leftist party for West Germany later this year.

Markus “Mischa” Wolf’s role in coordination of terrorism is not past history: His new underground organization, the KGB’s Operation Trojan Horse, was inaugurated with the Nov. 30, 1989 assassination of Deutsche Bank chairman Alfred Herrhausen. This attack was the beginning of a new terrorism offensive that aims at assassinating leading proponents of German reunification.

On May 8, a rally of several thousand at Potsdam Square in West Berlin protested against the reunification of Germany, on the grounds that it would mean a resurgence of a Nazi-run Greater Germany, and would mean that the “socialist G.D.R.” (East Germany) would fall prey to “West German imperialism.” At the rally, Daimler-Benz Corp. and Deutsche Bank were singled out for attacks, because of their “leading role in the West German military-industrial complex.”

On May 12, a similarly composed rally of 5,000 in Frankfurt protested against “the imperialist annexation of the G.D.R. into a Greater Germany,” and warned against “neo-Nazism” and “anti-Semitism” that would come along with the reunification of the two Germanys. Calls for a “strong socialist German state” were issued at the rally, which was under the nominal control of the Green party headquarters in

that city. A speaker addressed the mob with the call: "Let us launch the fight against the Germany of the German patriots, against the bosses and the cops."

This, the formal return to Germany of Moscow's old Comintern strategy of penetration, paralysis, and insurrection, is being supervised by Markus Wolf and other leading operatives of the old Comintern apparatus, such as Jürgen Kuczynski and his sister Ruth (both over 80 years old). Kuczynski was a close collaborator of Eugen Varga, the man who ran espionage and sabotage for the Comintern through a network of econometric institutes in the West, from the 1920s on, and later worked as the key liaison in the 1930s and early 1940s between the Red Orchestra espionage cell in Paris and London. Ruth Kuczynski using the underground name of "Sonya," worked with the same Red Orchestra and later on with the Asian Comintern network of Soviet master-spy Richard Sorge, based out at the German exile community in Shanghai. Wolf and the two Kuczynskis are close advisers to the PDS party bosses, chairman Gregor Gysi and co-chairman Hans Modrow, the prime minister of the second transition regime that governed East Germany between December 1989 and April 1990.

Markus Wolf's Comintern career

As for Wolf's role in more than 50 years of active service for the Kremlin, a two-part exposé in the *Jerusalem Post* on April 27 and 29 listed some remarkable aspects of his biography. The exposé, headlined "Mischa's back" and "The long arm of Mischa Wolf," concentrated less on his image as "master spy," but rather on another aspect:

"He has also supported and harnessed some of the world's most violent terrorist groups, according to sources close to British, American, Israeli, and West German intelligence agencies, although the agencies don't always concur in the events they link him to. Wolf's goal has always been the destabilization of Western governments."

Born in 1923, to a Jewish family that emigrated from Germany to the Soviet Union in 1933, Markus Wolf adopted the Russian cover name of "Mischa" and attended the elite Comintern school at Kushnarenkovo. "Wolf's teachers recognized talent, and when he was still in his teens, he was recruited into the NKVD—the KGB in one of its earlier forms," wrote the *Jerusalem Post* on April 27. Wolf earned his first laurels in the NKVD's disinformation and propaganda operation against Germany during the war.

After an interlude as a special NKVD correspondent, operating under cover as a journalist, at the Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal in 1946-47, Wolf returned to Moscow in 1949 to become first counsellor at the embassy of the newly established communist East German state. At that time, he already had the rank of NKVD general. In 1951, Wolf got a new assignment, to build up an agent network in Western Europe for the NKVD. This became the HVA, the Chief Department of Intelligence, which Wolf officially headed

from 1958 to 1987.

"When Wolf was 28," the *Jerusalem Post* wrote, "he returned to East Berlin as the KGB's top man in the outpost, called the Institute of Economic Research, the precursor of the HVA. Germany, at the center of Europe, was the Soviets' most crucial base for a broad spectrum of covert operations, and Wolf was their key man. The KGB poured fabulous sums into Wolf's operations, according to Western intelligence sources."

In 1952, Wolf's promotion to NKVD lieutenant-general was, as the *Jerusalem Post* noted, "all the more remarkable since Stalin was purging other Jews throughout the Soviet Union and the East bloc. . . . Yet rampant anti-Semitism never slowed Wolf's rise. For by now Wolf was the chief protégé of KGB honcho and future Soviet leader Yuri Andropov. Andropov's other young favorite was Mikhail Gorbachov."

Among the operations Wolf ran for Andropov in the years after, was the "deep penetration of international terrorist groups," as became apparent during the non-public trial against Günter Guillaume, the spy who was the closest personal adviser to West German Chancellor Willy Brandt in the early 1970s and whose cover was blown in April 1974, leading to Brandt's resignation.

More public light on Wolf's involvement with international terrorism was shed in late 1989, when in the course of the East German revolution, secret material was found that linked an arms-trading company, IMES, and its director, Alexander Schalck-Golodkowski, to funds of the HVA. IMES reportedly sold arms to Iran, Iraq, but also to Ibero-American guerrilla groups and terrorist organizations in Mideast and Europe, such as the PFLP-GC of Ahmed Jibril, the IRA, and the West German Red Army Faction. Wolf's HVA maintained a training camp for European terrorists in Muammar Qaddafi's Libya, and, according to other sources, also one in Nicaragua.

The terrorist assault against the Israeli sports team at the Munich Olympics 1972, the bomb attack on the Brighton Grand Hotel that almost killed Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in October 1984, the bombing of the West Berlin "La Belle" discotheque in April 1986, and the Lockerbie bomb attack on a PanAm airliner in December 1988 are all traced back to Wolf's covert operations.

Wolf's role behind terrorism is not past history: It is mooted that his new underground organization, the KGB's Operation Trojan Horse in West Germany, was inaugurated with the Nov. 30, 1989 precision remote bomb attack that killed the chairman of Deutsche Bank, Alfred Herrhausen, near Frankfurt. This attack, anti-terror specialists in the West say, was the beginning of a new terrorism offensive that aims at assassinating leading proponents of German reunification in politics, industry, and banking in the course of this year, to keep the unification process under firm Kremlin control—and, in the ideal case, to make it impossible.