

Helga Zepp-LaRouche Sets The Record Straight on Helmut Kohl



German Chancellor Helmut Kohl speaks at the official opening of the Brandenburg Gate on Dec. 22, 1989.

June 19—*The Chairwoman of the German Schiller Institute, Helga Zepp-LaRouche, wrote the following statement for the EIR Strategic Alert Service on June 18, two days after the passing of Helmut Kohl, of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), who was Chancellor of Germany from 1982 to 1998, which included the period of its reunification.*

EDITORIAL

The various assessments of Helmut Kohl as the “father of German unity” and “the visionary of a united Europe” sound more like the PR description of the politically correct understanding that Kohl’s contemporaries are supposed to have of that historical period, which coincided with his term in office. But the story of the geopolitical operations that targeted Kohl, in particular, during the time of German reunification, have been totally suppressed. These operations are still playing out to this day in other forms.

It is to Kohl’s credit that, with the release of his “Ten Point Plan for a Confederation of the two Germans” on Nov. 28, 1989, he made a first baby step toward establishing German sovereignty, a step which he had not coordinated with the Allies or with his coalition partner, the then Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, of the Free Democratic Party (FDP).

A truthful picture must include the fact that the assassination two days later of Alfred Herrhausen, then-chairman of Deutsche Bank and a close advisor to Kohl, allegedly by the third generation of the Red Army Fac-

tion (RAF), was meant to immediately contain this impulse to obtain sovereignty.

What is also omitted in the many comments is Margaret Thatcher’s hate-filled “Fourth Reich” campaign against Kohl, as well as François Mitterrand’s threats of war in the event Kohl were not ready to abandon the deutschemark sovereign currency as the price to pay for reunification, and to accept the constraints of the Maastricht Treaty straitjacket and the euro, as reported by Jacques Attali in his biography of Mitterrand.

Kohl later described the European Community Summit in early December 1989 in Strasbourg, where he faced these attacks, as one of the darkest hours of his life. According to his own statements, it was not until his Dec. 19, 1989 visit to Dresden, with the population shouting “Helmut! Helmut!” with joy, that he realized that the moment for German reunification had come.

Of course, Helmut Kohl was also a living witness to the promise made by the Americans to Mikhail Gorbachov, as was reported by then U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Jack Matlock, among others, that NATO would never expand up to Russia’s borders. For Kohl, the Cold War had ended with the breakup of the Soviet Union, and it is highly doubtful that he would have agreed with the demonization of Vladimir Putin of the past years. The fact that Mrs. Merkel now considers herself as the proconsul of Barack Obama’s policy of confrontation would probably also not be to his liking.