

agement. The policy of non-interference by the Party in vital economic matters has been one of the main demands of the military.

Figurehead as he remains, Chernenko is in one respect an important choice. Perhaps no other candidate exemplifies more clearly the nature of the ruling current in the present Soviet leadership, the extreme national-chauvinist faction that goes under the name of the "Russian Party." According to an exposé published in the Spanish *El Diario* Feb. 14, Chernenko is one of the chief sponsors of the new wave of anti-Semitic propaganda in the Soviet Union. It was he, for instance, who boosted the publications of the leading anti-Semitic writer in the U.S.S.R. right now, Lev Korneyev. Chernenko also pushed for the recent rehabilitation of the top secret police official Ignatiev, the man responsible for coordinating the infamous "Doctors' Plot," the last anti-Semitic purge of the Stalin era.

This outlook is coherent with the recent emergence of a "grassroots" movement for a Holy Mother Russia based on a concordat between the Orthodox Church and the Soviet State. This movement, according to one British source, "has the potential to unite the Solzhenitsyns and the Ogarkovs of Russia." The publications of this movement insist that America and the West are victims of a fearful "Jewish-masonic-plutocratic" conspiracy—a construct very close to that of the Nazis and National Bolsheviks.

Moreover, Chernenko has been exposed in European newspapers as a product of the same bloody secret police institutions as his predecessor, Andropov. During the 1930s, Chernenko served as a member of the "NKVD border troops," the SS-like arrest-and-execution commandos active during the Great Purges of the 1930s. According to the West German daily *Die Welt*, there are survivors of those purges—in which 2.8 million people were butchered in 1936-39 alone—who have testified that Chernenko personally took part in executions of political prisoners.

Following proposals made by Ogarkov in a 1982 book, the Soviet leadership is launching a militarization of the entire Russian school system. Chernenko headed the commission which designed the new program, which, according to Col. S. Konobeyev, deputy head of the Defense Ministry's military training program, will include the following provisions:

- 1) Every school in the U.S.S.R. will establish a post of vice-principal in charge of military training of students. The time devoted to elementary military training in the schools should be increased by 50 per cent.
- 2) Every 9th- and 10th-grade pupil will undergo six full days of compulsory field exercises each year as part of his or her elementary military training.
- 3) "Defense sports camps" will be established for youngsters over the age of 15.
- 4) School military instructors will receive 30 per cent raises in salary.
- 5) Every Soviet school will have its own armory, firing range, drilling grounds and other facilities, preferably to be built by the students themselves.

# Soviet build-up for

by George Gregory

The number two man at the West German Defense Ministry in Bonn, State Secretary Dr. Lothar Rühl, recently insisted that the design of Soviet force-structures and operational doctrine in Europe is aimed at a "surprise attack" against Western Europe (see *EIR*, Feb. 14). The evaluation in Bonn of the Soviet buildup of its combined conventional and nuclear-chemical missile forces over the course of the second half of the 1970s, and accelerating particularly in 1983, is that possible Soviet options range from a full scale surprise assault to the militarily more limited, but politically devastating, "smash and grab" option, or a "surgical strike." The area viewed as the most sensitive and likely target for a Soviet-Warsaw Pact "surgical strike" is the northernmost state of Schleswig-Holstein.

Since Dr. Rühl's public comments in late January, a virtual chorus of assertions that Soviet forces and political activities along especially the NATO Northern and Central fronts represent "no danger at all."

The chief of the Danish section of the Pugwash conference claims that any talk of a Soviet "surprise attack" is "complete nonsense, utterly absurd, and only certain German circles are talking about it." Similarly, attendees of the recent Aspen Institute meeting in Berlin insist that no acute danger of this sort exists.

On the official political side, even West German Defense Minister Manfred Wörner told the annual Commanders Meeting in the Schleswig-Holstein town of Travemuende bordering on East Germany that "Peace in Europe is secure. There is no threat of war, neither intentional war, nor war by accident . . . therefore the fear of war going around is unfounded." Likewise, Bonn Foreign Ministry State Secretary Alois Mertes told the military-elite Wehrkunde meeting in Munich that "the danger of war is nearly nil."

In the case of the Pugwash/Aspen chorus, the normal observer, unaware of why they were chiming in so loudly, might well suspect that "where there's smoke, there's fire." In the case of Defense Minister Wörner, who knows the development of the Soviet forces in "Strategic Direction West" from the inside, his comments are perhaps based on the evaluation that Soviet activities are "merely psychological warfare," requiring merely that "we do not lose our nerve," as some in Bonn suggest.

# attack on Europe

## The political anatomy of a surprise attack/surgical assault

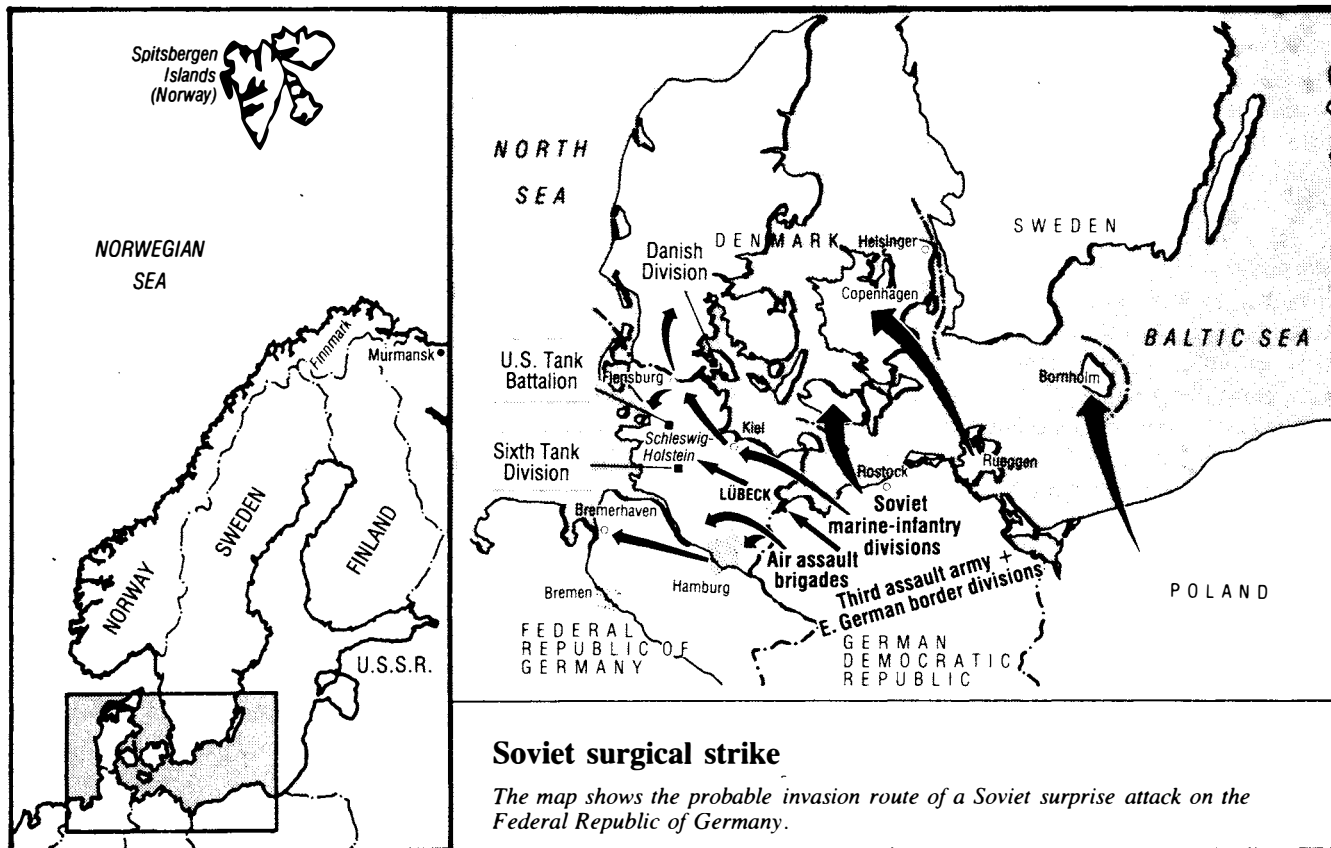
In 1976, a Soviet-East German military exercise called UDAR, a surgical strike into West Germany, surrounded with propaganda-gaming to "stage manage" a phony resurgence of Naziism in West Germany as the pretense for a Soviet intervention, became known in the West, and was largely discounted as "psychological warfare" at that time.

West German security authorities have monitored an increasing pattern of such phony "Nazi resurgence" shennanigans, and have determined that the lion's share of the financing originates with the KGB, often channeled through Swiss banks. Early in February, ten "neo-Nazi" hooligans were whisked off the streets of Munich, caught in the act in just such a "staged-propaganda" "Nazi rally." The incident was almost completely blacked out of the West German media. Evidence developed in the interrogation of the Munich-10 apparently points strongly in the direction of KGB sponsorship.

A training camp for East German "special forces" assigned for deployment into West Germany to stage "neo-Nazi resurgence" ploys has been identified near Dresden in East Germany. While the nature of the camp, the type of training, I.D. papers issued, etc., are apparently well known, these facts have not yet filtered out into the public. The reason

Dramatically enhanced objective, material capabilities of Soviet and Warsaw Pact air-land-sea forces, as well as the nuclear-chemical-conventional short-range missile and artillery forces (SS-21, SS-22, SS-23 missiles as well as dual-capability canon and howitzers) are very real. Equally real is the evident design of Soviet and Warsaw Pact maneuvers demonstrating enhanced air-borne mobility and ground-force surprise-attack conduct of offensive operations.

The Soviets have not merely continued to develop the material capabilities for a surprise attack/surgical assault, but have increasingly launched political "stage-managing operations" to create excuses for themselves to use those capabilities.



for that may be near the center of a public brawl that has broken out between the Bonn Interior and Foreign Ministries. The Undersecretary of the Interior Ministry, Dieter Spranger, has publicly criticized Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher for preventing security services from rounding up Soviet, East German and other Warsaw Pact agents and throwing them out of the country. Genscher's argument, also stated publicly, has been that of saving costs and effort: He claims it is easier to keep track of known agents than to try to locate and identify their replacements.

In any case, there is no indigenous neo-Nazi revival in West Germany. Anything which looks like a neo-Nazi revival is a kook or spook on the KGB payroll. But this operational feature of the UDAR maneuver leading toward a Soviet surgical strike into West Germany is in full swing, and is no longer a "psychological warfare story."

Military-intelligence specialists point out that, if one maps Soviet operations to create excuses for themselves to use their military forces, like the neo-Nazi revival tactic against West Germany, from the far-north of NATO down southward, the picture is that of a boiling cauldron, an unprecedented pattern of hectic Soviet stabbing operations into the flanks of NATO.

In neutral Sweden, for example, the Soviets are engaged in what is politely termed a "tug-of-war to make sure Swedish neutrality is definitely inclined in their favor." The Chief of Staff of Socialist International Prime Minister Olof Palme's military forces, Stefanson, has stated that Sweden would respond to any NATO violation of its air-space by a cruise missile, by shooting it down. European military observers say that as long as Sweden is inclined in this direction, the Soviets will be fervent advocates of Swedish "neutrality." Thus, the Soviet government newspaper *Izvestia* on Feb. 9 piously blasted NATO's "aggressive attempts" to "pull Sweden away from its neutral position."

Very sensitive and militarily crucial are the Norwegian Spitzbergen Islands, located just opposite the giant Soviet naval base in Murmansk. Intelligence specialists are alerted to Soviet attempts to foment unrest and riots among the 2,500 or so Soviet coal miners (versus 1,000 Norwegians), and then blame the unrest on Norway as the excuse to move in militarily. The Spitzbergen Islands, located between the Barents Sea and the North Atlantic, are a crucial control and choke point for East-West and North-South naval traffic.

In a case politically similar to the West German neo-Nazi ruse, the Soviets left huge fingerprints in Vienna, Austria the weekend of Feb. 11-12. "Peace Movement" demonstrators fired volleys of blank cannon shots and carried signs with slogans "Down with the Nazi Army" during a swearing-in ceremony for new recruits to the Austrian Army. Assembled were international guests, including military attachés from East Bloc countries. The demonstration is being read as an anniversary celebration for the "Little Revolution" of 1934, when socialists rioted against the Austrian "Home Guard," and were bloodily suppressed; political destabilization fol-

## 'We're not sure'

Each of the Democratic presidential candidates in the New Hampshire League of Women Voters' debate on Feb. 23 refused to declare that they would retaliate if the Soviet Union launched a nuclear attack on the NATO allies in Western Europe.

Mondale: "That's one of the toughest problems in the whole world. . . . We need a strong deterrent force to prevent it, and above all we need arms control to reduce the risks. . . . If that event occurs, how you would answer that depends entirely on the moment and the circumstances and the consequences and the environment. . . ." Glenn: "I find myself in agreement with Mr. Mondale. . . on the importance of this and of not saying exactly where you would draw the line. . . ." Cranston: "[Y]ou have to keep the adversaries guessing. . . ." Askew: "I agree essentially with all three." Hart: "If that scenario should happen, in my judgment, in the 1980s and 1990s it will probably be by accident and not by design. That's why I was one of the first to advocate the creation of some kind of joint crisis monitoring capability between ourselves and the Soviets. . . ." Jackson: "We need this kind of war prevention center. . . ." Askew: "What was the assumption of your, the assumption of your question?"

lowed, and the fascists took over in 1938. The in-place capability to replicate in 1984 the 1934 "Little Revolution" is seen as a strong Soviet signal that Austrian neutrality only exists at the suffrance of the Soviet Union.

These political jabs and stabs are intended to carry the message to each of the West European countries involved, "Either behave as we indicate, or else. . . ." That is also how the message is understood. Backed up with the combined conventional-nuclear-chemical arsenal at their disposal, the message intended becomes practically: "We confront you with such a formidable threat, that you only have two choices—surrender without a fight, or we will use the forces at our disposal and crush you."

That message is being delivered to every Western European nation or Western-allied nation, but up to now the West has apparently decided to avoid answering by pretending that the message has not even been heard.

### The military anatomy of a surprise attack/surgical strike

As the broad scale of political stabbing operations indicates, a surgical strike aimed at Schleswig-Holstein would involve movement of Soviet forces at least along the entirety of NATO's North and Central Front. Finnmark, in Norway

above the Arctic Circle, is a prize target for a feint or occupation move, and Soviet forces will act to "pin down" NATO forces and prevent them from being diverted to defend the expected area of penetration—Schleswig-Holstein.

No expert doubts the Soviet capability of striking into Schleswig-Holstein. An unprecedented build-up has been carried out for just this purpose. In 1983 alone, three Soviet and three East German Air Assault Brigades, at 2-3,000 men per brigade and equipped with transport and battle helicopters, have been added in East Germany. NATO's AFNORTH command says that each of the four Soviet Armies in East Germany have also been outfitted with one Air Assault Brigade each, and there is also an additional East German Air Assault Brigade on the Baltic Island of Rueggen. East German plans are known to foresee a build-up to division strength (15,000 men) for each of its own Air Assault Forces by 1986.

Also in 1983, the East Germans increased the number of tanks in their Armored Divisions from 189 to 325 (total of two divisions), and brought the manpower strength of their divisions up to 14,600 from 10,500.

Particularly relevant to the surgical strike into Schleswig-Holstein is the Soviet Third Assault Army, consisting of five divisions, with three Air Assault Brigades, joined by two East German divisions and elements of one East German border division. All in all, over 100,000 Soviet and East German troops face the West German Sixth Tank Division at a manpower strength of 23,000.

The fact never received much public attention, but military specialists point out that the Soviet-East German maneuvers in the Fall of 1983 demonstrated the capability of throwing a portion of this force, 30,000 men, into a full assault from their jumping-off positions without any staging or massing ahead of time. This maneuver demonstration is read here as a "proof of principle" for the rest of the 100,000 force.

These forces, headquartered in the Magdeburg area of East Germany, constitute the over-land strike force penetrating the East-West German border between Lauenburg on the Elbe River and the Baltic in the Luebeck-Travemuende area.

Helicopter-borne commando units would assault rear areas of northern Germany, the Danish Jutland Peninsula and the Danish Islands in the Baltic Sea. Soviet, East German, and Polish amphibious units would conduct the assaults on the Baltic islands.

As noted, major features of this buildup occurred over the course of 1983. Similarly, from approximately mid-1983, the Soviets began mass-production of a weapon solely designed for Blitzkrieg operations: the Model E MI-24 HIND helicopter gunboat. Nothing close to an exact count of the number of these helicopters is available; the only thing known for certain is that official NATO counts of 800 helicopters for the forces in East Germany are ridiculously low. According to one specialist, "The MI-24 E is our biggest headache." At a production rate of 1.5 machines per day, the Soviets have over 2,000 now in their inventory, and approximately 600 of

these are deployed in Afghanistan, with at least that many in East Germany. They are heavily armed, equipped with anti-tank and anti-air guided missiles, all-weather, and full night-fighting equipment.

The MI-24 E is, furthermore, ideally suited to the flat plains of Schleswig-Holstein, and also for the super-calm Baltic Sea. They are all but invisible, flying low, for NATO Tornado and Phantom counter operations. The MI-24 E, capable of transporting 20 men, is suited both for lightning-strike air-support of tank and armored units, as well as for landing significant assault commando units.

There are, additionally, reports that the Soviets have deployed significant numbers of anti-laser laser weapons designed to blind opposing laser range-finding and target-acquisition/targeting equipment. It is not known how effective these laser-blinding machines are, but West German sources point out that the numbers deployed indicate the Soviets believe them to be effective enough.

This conventional build-up parallels the modernization of the short-range Soviet nuclear-chemical missile forces (to be reported on in a subsequent *EIR* article).

### **It's no secret**

Neither the development of Soviet forces described nor the specific vulnerability of the Schleswig-Holstein area are any secret.

Again without any public notice, last year a U.S. tank battalion with artillery support was detached to a position near the city of Lübeck in Schleswig-Holstein. This battalion functions as a "trip wire," a warning to the Soviets that NATO will not permit a strike so "surgical" as to selectively pick on West German forces without touching the other allies. The trip-wire significance of this battalion is underscored by the fact that it is directly under SHAPE command from Belgium, and the clear message intended is "Watch out! If you pick a fight, you're going to have to pick on all of us."

A mobilization of "Safeguard Denmark" reserve forces has also begun, which forces have the specific assignment to engage and destroy air-borne and helicopter-borne commando or sabotage units dropped in rear areas. AWACS surveillance aircraft have been sent forward to Denmark and Norway to keep a watch on things, too. British sources report that 2,000 British rapid deployment paratroopers are earmarked to be lifted to defend Schleswig-Holstein and Jutland.

Also extremely significant is the decision just announced by French Defense Minister Hernu that the headquarters of the French Third Army Corps is being moved forward to Lille as a demonstration of the French commitment to "counter an eventual danger in the north." This significant gesture is, however, far short of the possibility of bringing the Pluton missiles of the Third Army Corps forward, armed with Enhanced Radiation warheads (neutron bomb), into an effective defensive position for Schleswig-Holstein to counter a massed Soviet-East German assault.