

Anglo-Dutch Offensive Takes Aim at Germany

by Rainer Apel

Had the German elites, or at least considerable sections of them, been smart, they would have made use of the fact that the political situation had changed dramatically with the results of the U.S. midterm elections Nov. 7. They would have allied with the winning side of the elections, the Democrats, and especially would have established direct contact with the chief dynamic factor of the Democrats: the LaRouche movement.

So far, the Germans have not done that. The German government in particular, assisted by the establishment media, has pursued a policy based on the wrong assumption that the Bush-Cheney team still is the number one partner, even if it is now a lame duck. And what benefit have the Germans had from that obsolete propitiatory policy? The Anglo-Dutch forces, which have lost considerable ground in the post-Nov. 7 United States, have decided to look for reinforcements in Germany, to make sure that they do not lose control of the global speculative financial bubble. This resembles the 18th-Century efforts of the British Crown, which ran into severe military difficulties with the American patriots after 1776, and relied on troop reinforcements from feudal Germany, mostly Hessians. When the American patriots won the War of Independence, many of the Hessians went over to the American side.

As for the Germany of today, it has come as little surprise that there have been several major destabilization campaigns in the past three or four weeks, always with an Anglo-Dutch hand in them. The destabilization attempts have the objective of terrorizing potential resistance, and drumming up support, especially financial support, for the neo-con cause.

The extent to which the German elites have been manipulated in this wrong direction was shown in remarks made by Chancellor Angela Merkel at the traditional New Year's reception of the German stock exchange, in Frankfurt, Jan. 22. There Merkel assured private equity and hedge funds that discussion about fund transparency would not hinder their freedom to act in Germany, and that there would not be any state orgy of regulation.

Her assurance is very unwise, as a vast majority of Germans are fed up with the "locust" funds, which have destroyed tens of thousands of jobs, with their hostile take-over attacks in the corporate sector. The fact that several



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American, British, and Hessian soldiers at the Siege of Yorktown. Many Hessian troops working for the British went over to the American side after the British defeat: a lesson for Germany today.

weeks of intense campaigning by the German LaRouche Youth Movement, for production and against speculation in early 2005, had sparked a broad national debate on the destructive nature of equity and hedge funds, illustrates what the majority of Germans think. That campaign helped to shift the balance of forces, ruining Merkel's dreams about a neo-con majority government after the early election in September 2005, and forcing her to accept a Grand Coalition with the Social Democrats as the precondition of her election as Chancellor. Merkel has never been forgiven for that by the hard-line currents of the Anglo-Dutch financial interests, which have spared no efforts to sabotage and disrupt the government coalition ever since.

A campaign predominantly of notoriously pro-British media in Germany for the overthrow of Bavarian State Governor Edmund Stoiber, has hit Merkel's own coalition hard. The heads of the three coalition parties—Merkel for the Christian Democratic Union (CDU), Stoiber for the Christian Social Union (CSU), and Kurt Beck for the Social Democratic Party (SPD)—are the ones who determine coalition politics. Stoiber is a neo-con himself, but often has been a corrective against Merkel, whenever she went too far in her deregulation and privatization plans. Also, Stoiber has been linked to U.S. Republicans like Sen. Chuck Hagel (Neb.) and other conservative opponents to Bush-Cheney. Stoiber's fall is expected to strengthen the hard-line neo-cons in the CSU, and thereby the overall orientation of the Merkel government.

In tandem with the Stoiber affair, there is a big media campaign for the replacement of Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier, whose Southwest Asia policy is more on the Baker-Hamilton side, and whose Russia and China policies attempt to continue as much as possible of the Eurasian orientation which former German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder pursued between 2002 and 2005, in opposition

to the confrontationism of the Bush-Cheney team.

Steinmeier is charged by the media with having sabotaged the possible release from Guantanamo in Summer 2002 of Murat Kurnaz, a Turkish-born German whom American anti-terrorism teams abducted at the end of 2001. At the time, Steinmeier was Chancellor Schröder's chief coordinator of intelligence. The entire affair is scheduled in mid-March on the agenda of hearings of a special parliamentary investigation committee, but apparently, the media do not want to wait, and have presented one allegation after another in the press, mostly based on unnamed intelligence sources in the United States.

It may even be that the Bush Administration did offer the release of Kurnaz as early as Summer 2002, but a fact that is omitted and overlooked by the media is that after Chancellor Schröder vehemently attacked the Bush-Cheney Iraq War plan in August 2002, the Bush Administration disrupted all subsequent cooperation with Germany. Kurnaz was not released from Guantanamo until August 2006. This looks like a story about Bush-Cheney revenge against Schröder and his chief coordinator Steinmeier, rather than a story about the latter allegedly sabotaging the Kurnaz release. Nevertheless, the media are now calling for Steinmeier's resignation or replacement, which would naturally affect German foreign policy.

Corporate Destabilization: The Third Front

The third front of destabilization is hitting the corporate sector of Germany, with ongoing revelations about corruption and political bribery affairs at Siemens Corporation, one of Germany's largest industrial conglomerates. The revelations were unleashed by Transparency International (TI), an espionage operation run by Anglo-Dutch financial elites against governments and individual institutions and corporations that are opposed to radical free-market policies. Transparency International is a rating agency for special purposes, similar to the market rating agencies like Standard & Poor's. The first round of revelations, several months ago, led to the puzzling decision of the Siemens executive to hire none other than Michael Hershman, an American co-founder of TI, to oversee the corruption investigations. The German TI section is chaired by Christian Humborg, of the British law firm Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, which is known to maintain close relations to the military and intelligence establishment of Britain.

It is possible that the German elites will manage to contain, or even beat down, these attempts at destabilization, but it seems not very likely, given the strategic disorientation of the Germans. The only safe way out is to abandon all loyalty to the Bush-Cheney team, and all propitiation of the aggressive components of the Anglo-Dutch monetarists, and to begin linking up with the dynamic LaRouche factor in U.S. and international politics. That would easily destabilize the destabilizers.