



SPD rightwingers sniff out political winds

fascist party around the bulky Bavarian.

The list of SPD rightwingers includes local party leaders, former government officials, and one trade-union functionary. Indications are that these “new” Strauss recruits merely have chosen the appropriate psychological moment to make public their earlier ties to West Germany’s rejuvenated rightwing.

Lothar Meyer, a former SPD city councilman who has climbed on the Strauss bandwagon, was reportedly a longtime funder of the Bund Freies Deutschland (Free Germany League), a rightwing front group now being expanded into an openly pro-Strauss machine. The latest SPD recruit to the new fascist movement, West Berlin party official Walter Jaroschowitz, claimed that his

recent conversion came as a result of reading a frenzied nationalist tract — which had originally been published in a large-circulation newspaper two years ago!

Not surprisingly, some of these “new” Strauss fans emit a characteristic CIA odor. Many of them are based in West Berlin, a notorious CIA hotbed. And Lothar Meyer runs an ad agency in West Berlin, a time-honored CIA cover operation.

Strauss’ forces already have shown that they intend to use this handful of renegades to demoralize the SPD further. The Social Democrats, terrified by the wave of scandals overtaking the party and unable to respond programmatically to the anger of their working-class base, are fair game for Strauss’ attacks.

Schmidt on ELC: “Thoroughbred Communist”

Sept. 23 (IPS) — Undercurrents within the Social Democratic Party and Helmut Schmidt’s own recognition of his expendability to the Rockefeller forces burst to the surface this week at an SPD workers’ organizing committee meeting in West Germany.

Schmidt addressed an audience of largely trade-union leaders and membership who the SPD hopes will help

secure the SPD’s place in government a little longer. When one union member rose to attack Schmidt because of his credit policy towards Italy and his tolerance of the multinationals, Schmidt screamed, “You present yourself as someone from the European Labour Committees — a thoroughbred communist!” The ELC had no representatives at the meeting.