

Who is Pehr Gyllenhammar, and what are the Aspen-Skandia networks?

by William Engdahl from Stockholm

Henry Kissinger and other leading members and friends of the Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies held a closed session with certain political, industrial, and academic leaders from the four countries of Scandinavia this summer. The June 16-20 meeting at an isolated castle outside Stockholm in Saltsjöbaden was co-chaired by Aspen Chairman Robert O. Anderson of Atlantic Richfield and Pehr Gyllenhammar of Volvo. The topic was a "Nordic" version of the Aspen/Council on Foreign Relations policy of controlled disintegration and political fragmentation; next came a two-day executive seminar on "critical world issues" for Aspen trustees and senior fellows.

Gyllenhammar, Anderson, and Kissinger were simultaneously involved in another project: the formation of Kissinger Associates, Inc., formally announced this month, along with former British Foreign Minister Lord Carrington. Thus Pehr Gyllenhammar is involved in two of the world's dirtiest operations: the Aspen Institute, set up before World War II had ended to promote the Nazi policies of resource grabs, "back to the land," primitive technologies, and mass depopulation, under new labels like "environmentalism," of which Aspen is a leading sponsor and funder; and Kissinger Associates, a special operations center for coordinating destabilizations, wetworks, and economic policy manipulation. Gyllenhammar has indeed "made the big time."

The Aspen gathering

Also at the Saltsjöbaden meeting were: Exxon's Jack Clarke, who, as a member of John Connally's Treasury along with Paul Volcker in the early 1970's, had been involved in the 1971 demolition of the international gold standard, with its foreseeable sabotage of world trade and long-term investment; Robert S. McNamara, "bodycount" overseer of the Vietnam War as Defense Secretary and now a participant in former Tory Prime Minister Edward Heath's International Reporting and Information System (IRIS) group; Cyrus Vance, coordinator of the Council on Foreign Relations' Project 1980s, which openly stated that its policy of "controlled economic disintegration" was intended to shore up "liberalism" at the expense of "mercantilist" nations such as Japan, the U.S.S.R., and West Germany; and Countess Marion Dönhoff, publisher of *Die Zeit* in West Germany, who is said to be extremely close to Dr. Kissinger. Mobil Oil

was represented by board member George C. McGhee, and Gulf Oil by chairman Jerry McAfee.

Practically nothing has been reported publicly about the Saltsjöbaden discussions (which undoubtedly included discussion of the upcoming Swedish national elections, slated for Sept. 19); but *EIR* has learned that Volvo President Gyllenhammar played a central role in the session on the future of Scandinavia. "Pehr blamed the earlier policies of [Olof] Palme [social-democratic prime minister from 1969 to 1976] for the present mess," according to a participant who wishes to remain unnamed. Gyllenhammar proceeded to outline a series of proposals for economic "decentralization" within Sweden and among the Scandinavian countries of Norway, Finland, and Denmark.

The Gyllenhammar proposals came in pursuit of a controversial study, "Framework for Swedish Industrial Policy," organized in 1978 by Gyllenhammar's Bo Eckman, and produced by Ira Magiziner of the Boston Consulting Group. That proposal, presented to the parliament and the government, was a blueprint for Swedish industry's suicide. It argued that shipbuilding, specialty steel, forest products, and iron ore mining—in short, the very guts of the industrial exports the world needs from Sweden—be triaged in favor of such tertiary fields as "hospital electronics."

Who is Pehr Gyllenhammar?

The 47-year-old Gyllenhammar has gained international prominence on a number of counts. Policy makers in the United States have been told to expect that the Volvo head will become Prime Minister by 1985. One prominent spokesman for the New York Council on Foreign Relations told *EIR* this month, "Pehr is the man to watch in Sweden. He is actually conservative, and he is emerging as a powerful political force with high ambitions." And, a remarkable set of international "friends," one can add.

Trained in Geneva at the Centre d'Études Industrielles, Gyllenhammar gained the presidency of Volvo by dint of well-chosen associations. He married the boss's daughter. In 1971, by age 36, he was head of Volvo. From this position Gyllenhammar introduced the "industrial democracy" experiments at Volvo which were hailed worldwide as a model for forcing assembly-line workers to self-police brutal speed-up. At that time, Gyllenhammar struck up an association with

the corpulent spook Herman Kahn of Hudson Institute. Volvo became a "model" for the corporation of the future, using the fascist social-engineering methods introduced earlier by Eric Trist, Fred Emery, and Einar Thorsrud, of Tavistock Institute of England.

By 1973, Gyllenhammar had been named to the International Advisory Committee of Chase Manhattan Bank (together with John Loudon of Royal Dutch Shell and Giovanni Agnelli of Fiat, and, of course, the incompetent nominal head of Chase, David Rockefeller, who hired Otto von Hapsburg in the 1960s as his personal intelligence adviser.)

The Kissinger connection

By 1977, Gyllenhammar was joined at Chase by Trilateral Commission executive and former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. The Kissinger connection proves important for Gyllenhammar, as we shall see. It is also at Chase that Gyllenhammar met a new board member: Alexander Haig, former commander-in-chief of NATO, who with Henry Kissinger ran the inside job in the Watergate operation against the Nixon presidency in 1974. Haig was given the cosmetic job as president of United Technologies, while being groomed for his political role within the United States.

Gyllenhammar himself, becomes a board member of United Technologies two years later. United Technologies, one of the largest defense contractors in the world, is run by a nest of asset-stripping former CIA and McNamara Defense Department types.

Gyllenhammar moves quickly into these circles. By the late 1970s, he becomes a board trustee of the Aspen Institute of Kissinger crony Robert O. Anderson, perhaps the world's leading negative-growth promoter. By 1981, Gyllenhammar becomes Vice-Chairman of Anderson's Aspen, bringing the annual trustees' meeting to Sweden, the first time it had been held outside the United States.

The Skandia Insurance operation

Like his father, Gyllenhammar came out of Skandia, the largest insurance company in Scandinavia. Founded more than a century ago, Skandia is the source of the family wealth of Socialist International operative Olof Palme. Palme's father, as well as his brother, Claes Palme, are tied to Skandia.

Skandia appears, from a variety of accounts, to have been a center of Anglo-Venetian subversion of the Swedish nation-state virtually from its inception. Skandia is at present under investigation by Swedish authorities for illegal transfer of confidential information on Swedish citizens into what is touted as the world's largest private data bank, Edward Heath's IRIS. Formally set up a year ago and incorporated under especially permissive Dutch laws, IRIS is owned jointly by Skandia; by Seascope, a subsidiary of Lloyd's of London insurance group; the Bank of Bilbao in Spain; and by the Bank of Liechtenstein. IRIS is headed by Carrington associate Heath, who is active on the World Bank's Brandt Com-

mission, and former World Bank chief McNamara, and staffed by a panoply of "former" high-ranking spooks from British military intelligence, its Royal Canadian Mounted Police affiliate, and the CIA. Its ostensible purpose is to provide corporate clients with sophisticated "risk assessment" for developing countries, so that they will not be "caught off guard," as happened with the fall of the Shah of Iran in 1979. IRIS operatives neglect to mention that they were part of the covert intelligence network that ran the Iran destabilization—starting with Henry Kissinger's evil counsel to the Shah.

Gyllenhammar's ties with Skandia are ongoing. Three years ago, as part of the transformation of Volvo from a primarily industrial company into a speculative holding company, Gyllenhammar merged Volvo with the rising star of Beijer-Invest. The head of Beijer, whose major earnings derive from spot market trading in commodities, especially oil, is a kind of "Swedish J.R." named Anders Wall. Wall is also on the board of Skandia.

Skandia and CSIR

Skandia is essentially a political outpost of the European oligarchy which created the varieties of 20th-century fascism, and continues to deploy both "left" and "right." Skandia director Claes Palme, the "conservative" brother of Socialist International operative Olof, is chairman of a nest of out-and-out Nazis at the Center for the Study of International Relations.

CSIR was set up in the early 1970s as a vehicle for contact with right-wing regimes in underdeveloped countries, many themselves tied into international narcotics cultivation. One board member is Jacob Sundberg, Law professor at Stockholm University, a member of the Belgian Rex Society, part of the neo-Nazi Malmö International.

The executive director of Claes Palme's CSIR is an expatriate Chinese, Dr. François Hsieh, a.k.a. Chun Hon Hsieh, a 54-year-old operative who is suspected by Swedish authorities of drug trafficking and espionage. Hsieh has been expelled from a number of countries, including Mexico and France, for criminal activities. When Swedish authorities attempted to block his entry in 1970, Sundberg and Public Prosecutor Holger Romander, a Palme appointee, secured Hsieh's political asylum.

Gunnar Myrdal, a former Nazi admirer turned social democrat who is best known in the United States for his profiling of racial tensions, is also associated with the activities of the CSIR. Myrdal, a public supporter of race biology and the World Eugenics Society in the 1930s and 1940s, is today an Honorary Sponsor of the Draper Fund Population Crisis Committee, together with Club of Rome founder Aurelio Peccei. We find Robert S. McNamara and Robert O. Anderson in this evil organization as well. The Draper Fund is explicitly dedicated to drastic reductions by any means necessary of so-called inferior populations.

Such is Pehr Gyllenhammar, and such is Henry Kissinger's milieu.