

How the 'peace movement' plans to blow up West Germany

by Charlotte Vollrads

The "peace and disarmament" movement's mobilization to make this the hottest autumn in the brief history of the Federal Republic of Germany is already in full swing. Throughout the country, groups are training for and carrying out trial runs of actions aimed at stopping the stationing of the new medium-range missiles in the Federal Republic. But those who actually control the movement admit quite openly that their real goal is not just to stop the missiles; it is to make the republic ungovernable, and to take control of and transform its institutions. Such threats to the republic are extremely dangerous, and the greatest danger is how rapidly the situation could go beyond all control.

Events following the "test occupation" of the Boehn barracks in Hamburg in mid-June showed how readily the autumn demonstrations could become riots. After the blockade of the barracks began peacefully—the army had given 1,000 troops an extended weekend on short notice, so that they would not come into contact with the blockade—four youths climbed over the fence at two different entrances to the barracks and entered military property, carrying banners which read, "This barracks is occupied." All four were immediately taken into custody, and will now stand trial. But it was just such an incident that first set off the "Ohnesorg Effect," when Benno Ohnesorg, a West Berlin student, was shot dead by a policeman during a demonstration on June 7, 1967. Ohnesorg was immediately made a martyr by sections of the student movement wanting to justify their own shift toward greater violence. Any "small, spontaneous" action such as occurred at the Boehn barracks, if it happens during the supercharged atmosphere of the coming October and at an American rather than a German barracks, could well set off killings and escalating violence.

'Non-violent peace movement'?

Representatives of a total of 26 organizations are currently meeting as a coordinating committee of the so-called collective peace movement in Bonn, to prepare the organization for the actions of the expanded movement in the fall. The biggest actions, planned for Oct. 15-22, are intended to paralyze much of the Federal Republic.

"Decentralized preliminary actions" in every city and

community will begin Oct. 15. "Ordinary resistance" is to be given free play, including painting of signs on walls, spray-painting of traffic signs, blockades of train lines by pulling emergency brakes or sit-downs on the tracks, blockage of traffic at key intersections, occupation of city halls and government offices, all aimed at crippling West German infrastructure through decentralized actions. Each day will be devoted to a specific "focal point of resistance."

"Resistance Day of the Churches" will happen first. Pastor Albertz of Berlin, the elder statesman of the recent Lutheran Convention in Hannover who is noted for his close connections with first-generation terrorists, announced at the Hannover meeting that he will participate in the blockades this fall, to ensure that the youth movement gets sufficient support. The fact that 90,000 violet handkerchiefs—which have become cult objects symbolizing their wearers' penitence and opposition to "worldliness"—were sold at the convention gives an indication of the Lutheran Church's commitment to confrontation.

More than 50,000 signatures against the stationing of the Euromissiles were collected by the Krefeld Appeal at the convention. The Krefeld Appeal, sponsored by the German Communist Party (DKP), Green Party leaders Petra Kelly and Gerd Bastian, and "former" Nazi Oberst Wede, has collected more than 4 million signatures nationally. The Lutheran Student Groups (ESG) have served for years as a nationwide infrastructure for pro-terrorist groups. In Hannover, the ESG organized an "Open Air Festival" in the Welfengarten (Guelf Garden) of the university, an event which impressed even hardened observers of the scene because of the huge assembly of pro-terrorist counterculture individuals. Representatives from the Communist League, Maoist groups, the DKP, various Third World and anti-imperialist groups, "former" terrorists like Peter Paul Zahl and their controllers such as Erich Fried of London, and even black-clad Nazi punks were all present.

The president of the Lutheran Convention, Erhard Epler, had declared before the conference that opposing nuclear armaments was a Christian duty and recommended "non-violent civil disobedience" through "refusal of cooperation with all military forces."

Witches and pig's blood

October 17 has been declared "Women's Resistance Day," and, from past demonstrations, will undoubtedly be distinguished by imaginative actions. At the 1981 Lutheran Convention in Hamburg, women demonstrators doused themselves with pig's blood, and at the Military Fair IDEE in Hannover they lay in the street naked, again dousing themselves with pig's blood.

The next day is the "Day of Anti-Militarism and of International Solidarity," which will emphasize international politics—Nicaragua, El Salvador, peace movements in the Third World, i.e., for Indians, and so forth. The Revolutionary Cells (RZ) at the Social Science Institute of the Konrad Adenauer Institute in Bonn recently announced that the institute will play a critical role in the "encirclement of the underdeveloped countries, especially Latin America."

"Workers' Resistance Day" follows, which, given the commitments of the printing and paper union leaders, the metalworkers' (IGM) leaders, and the national labor federation (DGB) to participate, may even involve strikes. Detlef Henschel, an official of the IG Printing and Paper union, and Social Democratic Party member Oskar Lafontaine both consider a general strike justified by the present situation. Franz Steinkühler, a regional leader of the IGM in Baden-Württemberg, recently declared that appropriate forms of resistance for the autumn must be found in order to help stop rearmament. The GEW, the teachers' union, has already declared Oct. 20 as "Resistance Day of the Schools," and forms of "civil disobedience"—sit-ins on school grounds and brief strikes against learning—are planned.

Then comes the "Resistance Day of Parliament," during which legislatures, ministries, and state offices will be blockaded, very likely followed by the Green Party again opening the parliament building to squatters. This time, they will probably not stop at throwing bags of paint at the Federal eagle, the state symbol of West Germany, in the plenary hall of the National Parliament in Bonn, as they did last month.

The week will climax in three simultaneous major actions, large marches called "Public Meetings for Peace," in which a total of 1 million individuals will participate in Bonn, Hamburg, and Stuttgart.

Despite verbal disagreements, the merger of the "traditional" and the "militant" peace movements is well advanced. At the last press conference of the Coordinating Committee in Bonn, assurances were given that the "passive deployment of bodies" would be carried out in non-violent blockades and sit-ins, "in the practice of Gandhi and Martin Luther King." Yet invading U.S. military bases is considered "non-violent," although demonstration coordinators such as Andreas Zumach and Jo Leinen know well that U.S. soldiers have orders to shoot if unauthorized demonstrators are found on U.S. military property. Such tactics as "Operation Atonement," cited by Andreas Zumach, are modelled on operations in England, when old women and young girls scaled barbed wire security fences with ladders and sheets. Zumach claims

not to recommend such actions.

Exactly such actions by "defenseless" young or old women will introduce the Ohnesorg Effect into the debate. The organizers of "Operation Atonement" are reported to have close connections with the East bloc as well as to the Interdenominational Peace Council (IKF) in Holland, which serves as a central coordinating committee for the European peace movement and also has connections to the East bloc. *Stationing and Transportation of Nuclear Weapons*, a book put out by the IKF to give an exact description of all relevant details for demonstrators, such as identification of cars on munitions trains, was published by the Alfred Mechttersheimers Institute in Starnberg in the Federal Republic.

Green Party treason

The Green Party has announced they will publish a military base map for the state of Hesse during the state elections, which will occur in the midst of the September "hot phase." None other than Hessian parliament member Gertrud Schilling, who has met with international terrorist controller Muammar Qaddafi in Libya, announced that all groups of Greens should be mobilized for that election. The *Green Newsletter* says that "all military installations, munition depots, and whatever else there is," including federal border protective installations, should be identified. "Take a walk and look more closely at the concrete bunkers!"

Green Party leader Petra Kelly said, following her election to the federal parliament March 6, that she would pass on all relevant information she received in Bonn to the peace movement; Roland Vogt, another Green parliamentarian and friend of Qaddafi, stated that he only sees a chance for stopping the NATO rearmament "in a widespread campaign of civil disobedience." Vogt's definition of civil disobedience includes disruption of leading West German government institutions.

The plans of the "autonomous" factions, who operate on the periphery of the Revolutionary Cells and the RAF terrorist groups, are well developed. In the north of Germany, blockades of NATO installations in Bremerhaven by "autonomous" groups are set for Oct. 13-15. Harbor traffic is to be crippled. The Carl Schurz barracks, the seat of the U.S. military sealift command, the Midgard area in the port of Nordham, which is the concentration point for U.S. armaments in Europe, and the U.S. barracks in the Garstedt fields are to be blockaded.

Earlier, on Aug. 19-21, peace groups will meet in north Germany at a peace and environmentalist camp to "become acquainted with the region." "Alternative city tours" through Bremerhaven and Nordenham will be used to familiarize demonstrators with the targets. The Wesermarsch Workers' Circle, which over a period of months has put together a network of spies to observe munitions transportation in the Federal Republic, accompanied with "appropriate actions," will work out plans by August in order to meet the next deliveries with demonstrations.

The Workers' Circle, based in Bremen, is certainly one of the most dangerous of the groups. A few months ago they proposed that "on the very long railway lines, operations could make their weight felt. Forming carpets of humans in front of trains, citizens chained to railway cars, sabotaging of railway signals, gasoline bombs and burning auto tires on the tracks, stones, balloons filled with paint, emergency brake operations, demonstrations . . . should take place along the entire line."

The movement will come to Hamburg for a giant demonstration on Oct. 10, and will "make their presence felt with the occupation of the Military Academy of the Federal Republic." The coordinating committee's demonstration will "carry the stamp of the forms of action of the independent peace movement," for which everything is justified by the constantly repeated slogan: "What is all this in comparison with the horror of war!"

In the south, the militants are planning to form a human chain from Ulm to Stuttgart, and hold a demonstration in front of the NATO European Command headquarters in Stuttgart as the high point of the actions there. At the planning sessions of the southern German peace movement, Alexander Schubart, a veteran of the often violent demonstrations against building a new runway at the Frankfurt international airport, said that traditional demonstrations must be transcended: actions must express the non-violent movement's commitment to political confrontation in a "diamond-hard" manner.

Those are the marching orders for the demonstrations planned to blockade the Pershing II installation barrack in south Germany, in Mutlangen near Schwäbisch Gmünd, which are set for Sept. 3-9. Schubart also wants to see the NATO blockade in Stuttgart thoroughly prepared. The summer is being devoted to this purpose and to spying by the various "peace camps" on military installations and cruise missile sites. In the western part of the country, the NATO Air Force headquarters as well as cruise missile sites in Bitburg-Eifel will "be shut down, as long as there is breath in our bodies," at least on Oct. 18-22.

Escalating violence and terror

Potentially dangerous actions, not always reported in the press, have already taken place in recent months at military bases and major traffic arteries. Security forces confirm that there is "considerable motion" in the left and that violent confrontations between demonstrators and the military this summer and fall cannot be ruled out. The Revolutionary Cells and Baader-Meinhof RAF could take part in the militants' actions or commit spectacular terrorist acts themselves in the ensuing chaos.

At the beginning of June, the office of Midgard AE in Bremen, which handles a great part of the business of munitions transportation, was briefly occupied. On June 4, the munitions ship *Bernania* in Dorsten in the northern Ruhr, was splattered with paint and met by demonstrators carrying signs

which read "Destroy NATO—Drive Out the Yankees," and "Stop U.S. Military Transports." These operations were carried out to show that the movement already possesses complete information on transport; the ship had taken a route not normally used, because there had already been disturbances on the usual route. Clearly, the change of route had been immediately detected and the information immediately passed along.

Still more crucial are operations against railway munitions shipments. In the last week of April, 11 Molotov cocktails were found along the Heidelberg-Karlsruhe railway line, to be used in an attack planned for May. These bombs, thrown against a munition-bearing railway car, could have caused a catastrophe. In the beginning of May, unknown individuals set off a small explosion on the Cologne-Euskirchen line at the railway relay station. In December 1982, a signal wire on the Bremen-Hamburg line was cut.

Some militant groups possess maps showing all the important supply points for U.S. munitions transports from Nordenham in central Germany. Such groups have also discussed the fact that if the railway bridge in Huntebrück at Elsfleth were to be destroyed, it would be impossible to maintain supplies by railway. Such actions against the railways could also occur in Hesse.

"A Plea for a Confrontation in Autumn," published anonymously by the *Atomexpress* of the Göttingen Workers against Nuclear Power, proposes a nationwide operation at the Frankfurt U.S. Air Base, to draw in "one of the most advanced resistance movements in the Federal Republic, the movement against West Runway [at the Frankfurt airport], which was also the runway for air base bombers and transport planes." The *Atomexpress*, recently the subject of an official investigation for having published declarations of the Revolutionary Cells, says further that "the infrastructure of the air base and the entire surrounding area [freeway points] is extremely vulnerable. A large action will completely block transportation and maybe even the air traffic in the region. . . . The air base is better suited than almost any other place for all kinds of actions."

This operation will draw in decentralized actions in the region. A member of "The Registered Association of Tank Killers," one of the approximately 300 active anti-runway terrorists, who every Sunday for months have destroyed wall supports, set fire to trucks, and conducted other actions, wrote in the same paper that "the runway movement has perhaps grown smaller, but it is therefore even more durable and sure of its goal. . . . That 'night shift' actions with extraordinary coordination (including some hundred attempts in the last two months) were carried out is extremely encouraging. . . . When the times comes, we'll assassinate! . . . Because of arrests, certain singled out individuals must take precautions: resolute small groups, timely retreats to the large group, and disguises will allow some to escape.

"Against concrete we can do little, so sabotage should be restricted to security installations . . . [These] cause huge ex-

penses, and makes large expenditures by the police necessary. . . . We can learn from one another that future operations will not be simple."

Support networks

The peace movement could not exist without the various congresses and proclamations for solidarity made by persons who would never dirty their own hands with Molotov cocktails. The belief structure and evaluation of the situation, as well as some of the logistical structure, are created by entirely different persons and agencies.

This May, 450 judges and lawyers met "for peace" in Bonn. Martin Hirsch, a former federal judge, told the participants that "there is no resistance without risk," and Professor Däubler of the University of Bremen developed in detail how the peace movement has a right, based on fundamental law, to resist the installation of the missiles. A congress of scientists opposed to rearmament and nuclear weapons will take place in early July, undoubtedly to create "scientific" support for the movement.

The network of sympathizers is now much more extensive than the one which supported the first generation of terrorists in the middle 1970s, but that logistical structure still exists. Leading terrorist defense lawyers of the 1970s such as Otto Schily today are members of parliament, and Berlin journalists Benny Härlin and Michael Klöckner, who are on

the editorial staff of the alternative newspaper *Radical* and in the early 1970s published the terrorist paper *883*, were recently detained for two weeks for publishing material for a terrorist organization.

Härlin is also a founder of the Self-Help Network, an alternative bank which finances the counterculture and the squatters' movement, and he works for the Berlin pro-terrorist *Tageszeitung*, which recently contributed to the disturbances during the visit of U.S. Vice-President George Bush in Krefeld, by distributing an anonymous appeal for the violent actions which took place.

The detention of Härlin and Klöckner has activated the entire old and new networks of sympathizers: Ingeborg Drewitz, Manfred Bissinger of *Konkret* magazine, Sebastian Cobler, Günter Grass, Helmut Gollwitzer, the Greens, the Action/Reconciliation groups, and parts of the Social Democratic Party. Although these alternative papers provide an essential communication network for the terrorists and pro-terrorist movement, they have not been outlawed. The *Atom-express*, known for its distribution of Revolutionary Cell writings, put it this way: "If declarations from militant groups were withheld from the public through official action, their actions would be more difficult to carry out or would remain anonymous. Only if the self-conception of a group and its goals are known, can its concepts be discussed and can it have an influence on resistance strategy."

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