

Report from Bonn by Hartmut Cramer

Trouble for the Jesuits in the CDU

The European Labor Party's election campaign is rattling West Germany's Kissinger-linked appeasement advocates.

The Christian Democratic government of Chancellor Helmut Kohl received a sharp challenge to its appeasement policies on May 12. Helga Zepp-LaRouche, the chairman of the European Labor Party (EAP) in West Germany, issued a call on nationwide television for the German population to wake up to the danger of a new Berlin crisis and a possible Soviet "surgical strike" against Germany, and to work for the strengthening of the alliance with the United States, against the appeasers and "decouplers" like Henry Kissinger and German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. Although nominally the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) is the dominant party in the governing coalition, Kohl has allowed Free Democrat Genscher to make West German foreign policy.

Zepp-LaRouche heads a slate of candidates in the June 17 elections to the European Parliament, and the 2½-minute television spot was the first of four the EAP has bought for the campaign.

The short broadcast provided a jolt to a country which is otherwise becoming increasingly ground down by the Soviet blackmail threat. Hundreds of calls came in to EAP headquarters in Wiesbaden.

Perhaps the most unexpected reaction came in the form of an attack on Zepp-LaRouche in *Bildzeitung*, the country's largest-circulation daily, run by the ostensibly conservative and anti-communist Axel Springer publishing empire.

The paper carried a picture of the EAP chairwoman and a caption quoting her: "If you don't want your children to have to learn Russian, vote for the EAP." *Bildzeitung* denounced her as "the woman with a shrill voice . . . running in elections since the end of the '70s, without success. Her crusade against communism is paid for by her husband, the American dollar-millionaire Lyndon LaRouche."

The European Labor Party's uncompromising stand against Germany's decouplers has brought it smack up against one of the most influential factions inside the CDU, the faction of Henry Kissinger's Jesuit-connected "liberals" like Kurt Biedenkopf, Heiner Geissler, and Norbert Blüm.

The CDU "Jesuits" suffered an important defeat recently when a long-time enemy of the EAP, Irmgard Karwatzki, the undersecretary of state in the federal Ministry for Family Affairs, lost a two-year-long political battle with Zepp-LaRouche's party. (The head of Karwatzki's ministry is the Jesuit-trained Heiner Geissler, a leading figure in the CDU.)

The Court of Appeals in Cologne ruled May 4 that Karwatzki will be fined or imprisoned if she repeats "literally or in substance" the slanders she has used against the EAP for two years. She has repeatedly attacked the EAP as a "youth sect" which "manipulates children to break with their parents . . . hides them in communes . . . and keeps them away from newspapers and other media."

Karwatzki's libels reflected the fact that the EAP, with its campaign for high-technology industrial development, an alliance with the United States, and a defense policy based on beam weapons, had been gaining influence among pro-American CDUers, people disgusted with the "liberalism" of the Jesuit faction of the party leadership. The Jesuits hit back, with the underhanded methods which have characterized their activities for centuries.

Two years ago Karwatzki, then mayor of the steel-producing city of Duisburg, asked the CDU leadership to move against the EAP. She maintained that "innumerable calls and letters from concerned citizens" had prompted her inquiry into the party. Yet an investigation at the time determined that the only question about the EAP submitted to the Duisburg CDU was from a close political associate of Karwatzki herself!

With backing from the CDU leadership in Bonn, these phony questions were presented as "facts," and libels were fed to newspapers directly linked to the CDU, like the *Deutschland Union Dienst* in Cologne, or to papers controlled by the "liberal" faction in the Catholic Church, like the *Ruhrwort* in the city of Essen, or to right-wing papers, like the *Würzburger Tagespost* in Bavaria, a mouthpiece of Archbishop Lefebvre, whose members were implicated in the assassination attempt against the Pope in Portugal two years ago.

The slanders against the EAP published in these papers were so outrageous that in June 1983 a court in Aachen ruled that one political cohort of Karwatzki, a teacher who poses as a "journalist" for papers like the *Würzburger Tagespost*, will have to pay a 500,000 Deutschmark fine if he ever repeats the lies.