

establish this false sociological distinction. Look, the Socialists in 1981 attempted to “recuperate” all kinds of terrorists, offered them a “helping hand.” Hundreds of hard-core terrorists were amnestied! And all of this was based on the assumption or the pretext that the terrorists were fighting against an authoritarian state, i.e., previous regimes. Soon after the amnesty, the National Security Court (Cour de Sureté de l’Etat) was dissolved. And what happened?

In 1981 there were 570 terrorist incidents in France or against French targets. In 1982 there were 1,260 such incidents. From 1981 to 1985 there have been 3,000 terrorist acts with over 800 victims. We did a senatorial investigation of all of this. The Socialist governments refused to extradite terrorists and France became a center for international terrorism, a refuge.

**EIR:** What measures do you suggest be taken against the terrorists themselves and their controllers?

**Rochet:** Acts of war can only be met by acts of war. At the very least we must clearly, *unambiguously*, denounce the countries involved in terrorism, isolate them, cut down their embassy personnel, make them feel the pressure.

**EIR:** The *Rainbow Warrior* incident weakened French intelligence, specifically the Action Service [covert operations]. Does France have the means to respond to acts of war by acts of war?

**Rochet:** It takes time to reforge a fighting instrument when it has been weakened. You have to understand that for the first time since the Nazi occupation of France, French police were *ordered* to investigate and chase other French officials, French intelligence agents. It is [former Interior Minister Pierre] Joxe who did this. Joxe ordered the police to hunt down French officers. Joxe is a card-carrying member of the CGT [Communist-affiliated trade union]. Can you imagine? A card-carrying member of the CGT as interior minister. Joxe even demanded, which had never been done before, to know the sources of the DST.

**EIR:** Did he succeed?

**Rochet:** (Laughs.) Let me tell you something else. When the Socialists came to power in 1981, they appointed Marion as head of the then SDECE [French foreign intelligence, now called DGSE]. Marion recently has revealed that at one point he submitted a number of names to the President of terrorists he suggested be eliminated. Mitterrand, says Marion, refused! It is Mitterrand’s own hand-picked director who is saying this. Perhaps Mitterrand was fearful for personal reasons.

**EIR:** Are there other, historical reasons why France did not face up to the terrorist threat?

**Rochet:** You must see that there is and has always been a pro-Soviet clan and an Arabist clan in the Quai D’Orsay.

## Europe prepares to face terror assault

by Thierry Lalevée

In contrast to those diplomats who are loudly wishing for a post-Reykjavik agreement with the Soviet Union, the Western specialized agencies and defense and interior ministers have no such illusions, and are gearing to face something quite different. The unanimous assessment among intelligence agencies is that Moscow’s anger at its failure will be concretized in coming weeks by a series of assaults: first, an Israeli-Syrian war, “almost inevitable” in the words of Gen. Yossi Peled of Israel’s Northern Command on Oct. 15; second, an activation of local and secessionist conflicts throughout the developing sector; and third, a terror onslaught in Europe and against American targets, through the joint deployment of European and Islamic terrorists.

International cooperation has been strengthened to face this assault. On Oct. 16, French Security Minister Robert Pandraud began a three-day visit to Washington, meeting with Vice-President George Bush, CIA director William Casey, and the directors of the FBI and of the National Security Council. In a press conference on Oct. 18, Pandraud announced that he had received “valuable intelligence leads . . . which have now to be concretized into proofs,” and that wide-ranging cooperation was established. “We have established a new coordination on how to release our hostages [in Lebanon], without giving in to blackmail. However, we are not going to give our enemies any gifts by giving out details.” Meanwhile, French Defense Minister André Giraud was in Saudi Arabia, ostensibly to discuss closer naval cooperation, but also to review the terror threats in the region, while Bernard Gérard, director of the DST (French intelligence) went to Morocco, Algeria, and Israel.

On Oct. 20, the interior ministers of the European Community convened once again in London to discuss terrorism. At the insistence of the French, the fight against drug smuggling became a top issue. Keeping as much secrecy as possible, it was announced on Oct. 21 that full coordination was established on both issues.

In the preceding days, both Paris and London had scored big victories against narco-terrorism. In Britain, an Ibero-American ring which laundered up to £200 million in drug dollars into British banks to be recycled in the United States,

was smashed. In France, a ring operating out of Africa was also caught with more than 10 million French francs' worth of heroin, and, in a spectacular move, more than 60 low-level drug smugglers were expelled from the country. As we reported last week, Franco-British cooperation has also led to the dismantling of an "Abu Nidal" terror network in London.

### **France and Germany: prime targets**

Both West Germany and France are on the front line. France was hit by a terror wave in September; on Oct. 10 Dr. Gerold von Braunmühl, director of the Political Department of the Foreign Ministry in Bonn, was assassinated. Claimed by a "Liberation Front of Western Europe" (a new label used by the Red Army Faction), the hit on von Braunmühl is considered as the first of a series against European leaders. West German police officials have sent out warnings that this includes reactivation of the French Direct Action, the Portuguese FP-25, and the Italian terrorists of the Red Brigades or First Line.

The other European targets are expected to have the same profile as the Bonn murder. Moscow doesn't consider it useful yet to go after top political figures, said one intelligence source. Instead the Soviets concentrate on the secondary figures who, because of their non-political functions, do the actual jobs in these governments. A reading of the terrorist communiqué which denounced von Braunmühl for his cooperation with the French, British, and American ministries in dealing with such countries as "Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, and the Gulf States," underlines the symbiosis between the Red Army Faction and its Mideastern alter egos.

Another lead to the international dimension of these operations lies in reports from West Germany that Direct Action associate, Frederic Oriach, was involved in the Sept. 9 bombing of the German federal border guard headquarters in Cologne. Wanted by French police in connection with the Paris terror wave, Oriach was known to have spent the summer in Damascus meeting with Syrian intelligence officials, before slipping back into Europe, via Zurich, in the first days of September. He was arrested in Paris on Sept. 25, then released but kept under judiciary control.

It became even clearer that all the terror groups work together, when the Armenian Secret Army (ASALA) and the "Committee of Solidarity with Arab Political Prisoners" went back into action at the same time. Between Oct. 14 and 18, the ASALA threatened repeatedly that unless George Ibrahim Abdallah and others arrested for the September bombings were released, "all French institutions will become targets." The ASALA made the outrageous assertion that if "it were not for [President] Mitterrand the Zionist," Premier Jacques Chirac would have already given into these demands.

In fact, intelligence sources recently revealed that Chirac had decided, after the Sept. 12 massacre in Paris, to bomb

the village of Kobeyat in northern Lebanon, home of the Abdallah family. The aircraft carrier *Clemenceau*, then participating in Mediterranean NATO maneuvers, was off the coast of Lebanon, ready for the operation, but it was halted by a veto from President Mitterrand.

### **The Soviet-Nazi network**

Enough messages and warnings have been sent to Syria and its terrorist allies in recent weeks, to make them pause and consider the price of going further. Of wide international consequence was the statement on Oct. 14, just before his departure to Washington, of Robert Pandraud, in which he denounced the "France-based logistical network" that helped the Abdallahs to perpetrate their crime. Pandraud specified that he meant the "Ben Bella network. . . . Ben Bella began his career as a terrorist; he is finishing it likewise." Ben Bella was a major topic of discussion in Washington, granted the weakness of certain American intelligence circles toward Islamic fundamentalism. Upon his return, and his quick trip to London, Pandraud began counteroperations. On Oct. 20, more than 15 leading associates of Ben Bella were arrested throughout France. Besides weapons, dozens of false administrative documents were found in their flats. Upon interrogation, most are expected to be expelled. Among those arrested was Mohammed Benhadj, the leading associate of Ben Bella, operating in France and Spain, who is known to have attended an important Iranian terrorist gathering on Aug. 8 in London at the "Muslim Research and Planning Institute."

For *EIR* readers, the consequences of such a move should be obvious. Going after the Ben Bella network, will bring to light the Nazi-communist connection to international terrorism, and the full dimension of its Soviet involvement. Inside France itself, it serves another purpose, granted that Ben Bella was repeatedly used by the previous Socialist government as a mediator with the terrorists.

Another breakthrough with consequences for all of Europe was achieved on Oct. 16. A French woman revealed that she had met with Robert Abdallah in Paris from the winter of 1985 to early September 1986. This gives the lie to Abdallah's declarations of Sept. 13, according to which he had not visited France in years. More important, he then used the name of Mehmet and lived with friends, members of the Kurdish Communist Party (PKK), a group which may be linked to the murder of Swedish Premier Olof Palme last February, and has also been exposed in France as the main couriers for drugs and arms on behalf of the European terrorists. Investigations can be expected to show that Abdallah's Kurdish friends have for years been the liaisons between Direct Action and the Lebanese terrorist FARL, or CSAPP as it is now called.

From the Kurdish Communist Party to the Ben Bella network, the entire Soviet-created European logistical infrastructure, where Euro-terrorists meet with Islamic and Mid-eastern terrorists, could now be dismantled.