

construction, industrial managers, craftsmen, and even politicians are swarming out to inspect the border regions between the two Germanys. Studies are being commissioned on highways, rail routes, and waterways that can be reopened after 44 years of German postwar partition and disruption of traditional commerce and transport routes.

This includes small projects like restoring a few kilometers of the old Route 722 between Hof (in the West) and Plauen (in the East), a key connection between Franconia and Saxony, two of the most important industrial regions in central Germany.

This also extends to the revival of projects designed more than 50 years ago, such as the construction of a modern waterway connection between the Middleland Canal and the Elbe-Havel Canal in Germany's north. The project, begun in 1938 but halted when the world war broke out one year later, consists of an elevated canal crossing the Elbe River over a distance of 13 kilometers. Built with an estimated 300 million deutschemarks, this canal will allow permanent transport without the usual reloading procedures during the passage of the 51-year-old Magdeburg sluice there.

A far bigger project is the construction of a trans-European rail connection between Paris and Warsaw, a venture costing in the range of billions of deutschemarks.

Over the past 15 years, virtually every big project, be it highway or railway construction, plans for power stations or bridges, had been rated in West Germany from a strictly ecologist viewpoint and has usually been discarded as "much too costly, too ambitious." The rise of the Green Party, over the same period, was endorsed and publicly applauded by Moscow, not least because the Greens were cut from the same cloth as the peacenik, anti-defense movement that could be used as a pawn against U.S. military presence on German territory. Moscow's loss of the "Green card" means it has lost crucial leverage on domestic politics in West Germany.

Dropping all undue respect of ecologism now, means that the West Germans will return to the traditional cultural matrix of their nation: interest in the sciences, especially the natural sciences and engineering, technology, and industrial development. It is this very identity that enabled the Germans in the West to realize the postwar "economic miracle," whereby in a matter of only 25 years, a country bombed into rubble emerged as the world's number-one exporting nation and third greatest industrial nation. Since the late 1960s, West Germany has maintained that position on the list of the world's industrial nations.

The inefficiency-worshipping Soviets feel that a return of the Germans to their traditional matrix of national identity will make them less susceptible and increasingly immune to Moscow's policy of carrots and sticks on the German question. One may paraphrase an old saying of Lenin's: He who loses control of the Germans, loses control of Germany and, therefore, of Europe.

## Moscow and the Trust retaliate in Germany

by Gabriele Liebig

Alfred Herrhausen, chairman of West Germany's Deutsche Bank and one of the country's most powerful political figures, was assassinated on the morning of Nov. 29 by a powerful bomb, which detonated as his automobile was traveling through the Frankfurt suburb of Bad Homburg. The blast was so strong, that the car, an armored Mercedes-Benz limousine, was hurled into the air, ripping off the entire side where Herrhausen was sitting in the back seat, killing him instantly.

According to police information, the bomb was a shaped charge, detonated through a laser-beam trigger that activated a wire-controlled ignition mechanism placed at some 150 meters from the detonation site. Police found later that various pieces of evidence had been left around the site to point to the Red Army Fraction (RAF)—the so-called Baader-Meinhof terrorist group—as the perpetrators.

But regardless of whether the bombing was the work of the RAF itself, or of the Soviet Union's powerful *spetsnaz* capability in Western Europe, or both, the fact remains that this was a political murder of the first order, of greater historic significance than the 1922 assassination of Weimar Republic Prime Minister Walther Rathenau, and the 1977 assassinations of Jürgen Ponto, chairman of the Dresdner Bank, and of Hanns-Martin Schleyer, head of the German Employers' Association. For Herrhausen was second only to West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl in laying the basis for the permanent reunification of Germany, since the fall of the Berlin Wall on Nov. 9.

In a statement released immediately following the bombing, Lyndon LaRouche—who himself was on the RAF's hit-list during their 1977 killing-spree—said that "this situation has to be judged both in terms of the capability which the RAF typifies [i.e., a *speznaz* capability—ed.], and also in light of my earlier warning to look for a period of crisis within the Soviet Empire between about the middle of December through Epiphany [Jan. 16] of next year. That crisis which I saw coming has now erupted."

The bombing, he said, "cannot be but a reflection of the same process we are witnessing in El Salvador. Either Gorbachov himself is involved or not, but a major faction of the Soviet military-Chekist apparatus is on the move with a

campaign of international terrorism, as the Soviets shift into high gear on what we call irregular warfare as the form of response at present to the collapse or crumbling of the economy and political structure within the Soviet Empire.”

### **Herrhausen’s ‘Germany plan’**

Herrhausen was a friend of Chancellor Kohl from the 1970s, and was his unofficial economic adviser. Herrhausen accompanied Kohl on his last trip to Moscow and Warsaw. He advocated a debt cancellation for Poland, and after Polish Solidarity leader Lech Walesa called for West German banks to become active in Eastern Europe, the Deutsche Bank was the first to be permitted to open offices in Warsaw and Budapest.

Herrhausen emphatically supported German reunification. The London *Financial Times* on Dec. 1 quoted from an interview with Herrhausen one day before his death, in which he said, “German reunification is desirable and unavoidable. History will not allow that a great nation—apart from the terrors of those 12 years—lives forever without national identity.” He also spoke of a “Germany plan,” that may have been related the financial underpinning for Kohl’s 10-point program (see article, p. 32).

Herrhausen discussed his plans for Eastern Europe in an interview with the *Wall Street Journal* on Nov. 17. When the development in the German Democratic Republic (G.D.R.) has gone far enough, he said there, and “when the G.D.R. again becomes a part of Germany during the reunification process, then we can use the eastern part of Germany, the present G.D.R., as a springboard to Eastern Europe. . . . I do not know how long the East bloc can survive, but I think that eastern countries of Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia—and even Bulgaria is beginning a new process—will play a large role in European development. . . . We know these countries. We speak the same language as the people in the G.D.R. The Hungarians were part of Austria-Hungary; they always belonged, so to speak, to the Western family.”

Was Herrhausen killed because of this conviction? A member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, Stanislav Schatalin, holds this view. According to a report in the Italian daily *La Repubblica*, Schatalin said on Dec. 1 that Herrhausen supported the reintegration of the East and West German economies, and was probably killed for that reason.

As “a symbolic figure of the military-industrial complex” and “capitalist suppression,” Herrhausen had been the enemy image of the leftists in West and East, according to *Financial Times* writer David Marsh. Reflecting British ruling circles’ violent hostility to the transformations under way in Germany, Marsh wrote that “Mr. Herrhausen showed himself to be an explicit—perhaps too explicit—advocate of German reunification.”

Three weeks ago, West Berlin demonstrators greeted startled visitors from the G.D.R. with placards that read,

“The freedom that you see here is the freedom of the Deutsche Bank.” Old Communist Stefan Heym, who nevertheless enjoys a good reputation with parts of the opposition in East Germany, recently railed against against reunification because it would merely lead to a seizure of power of “Messerschmitt, Mercedes, and Herrhausen.”

Already back in April, West Germany’s Communist Party (DKP) delivered a signal to the terrorist underground in the form of a declaration that in the future there may be “political pressure in the direction of a change in positions on the question of violence× toward open support for the RAF.

But one must not be so simplistic as to blithely label the assassination as another “communist plot.” In his statement, Lyndon LaRouche stressed the need to investigate the role of the long standing Anglo-American-Soviet networks known as the Trust. “The Trust may ultimately be one of the targets of the hardening up in Moscow, at least in the same degree that Stalin’s actions against Bukharin in the late 1920s represented a distancing from former Soviet Trust allies. But nonetheless at the moment the Trust will act in support of the objectives represented by the Soviet-directed terrorist operations in El Salvador, and the assassination of Herrhausen in West Germany. The motive, of course, is the obvious: balance of power. . . . And whoever is going for stability of the balance of power, is either a part of the Trust or is acting under pressure or under influence by the Trust.”

### **Gorbachov may also be targeted**

“That does not mean that the people behind this terrorist wave might not assassinate Gorbachov in Italy, or somewhere else outside the Soviet Empire itself,” LaRouche added. “We should look more closely at the figure of [Lev] Zaikov, who far from being demoted, has been moved into a key position where he is one of the candidates to replace Gorbachov, if Gorbachov for any reason should fall.” (See story, p. 38)

Security experts in West Germany, in neighboring European countries, and a few the United States, largely agree with LaRouche’s estimate that the terrorist attack on Herrhausen should be seen in strategic connection with a change of course for Moscow. “Resignation does not occur in the Marxist-Leninist vocabulary, but a tactical retreat to prepare for a counterattack does,” one Austrian security expert said in response to LaRouche’s estimate that the Soviet empire may be compelled to execute a bloody military crackdown in Eastern Europe in the very near future.

There is also agreement on LaRouche’s characterization of the guerrilla offensive in El Salvador as a parallel example of a Soviet-supported irregular warfare against the West. In El Salvador, the head of Christian Democratic government, President Alfredo Cristiani, and those directly around him are primary targets of terrorist attacks. Many of Cristiani’s friends and officials have already been assassinated.