

# Arrests prove Stasi-KGB control of Baader-Meinhof terrorists

by Jeffrey Steinberg

Since June 6, at least eight of West Germany's most wanted terrorists have been arrested in East Germany at safehouses formerly under the control of the notorious Ministry of State Security (Stasi). The evidence that has emerged in the wake of those arrests proves beyond a doubt that the terrorism of Andreas Baader and Ulrike Meinhof's Red Army Faction (RAF) that stalked continental Western Europe throughout the 1970s and 1980s was steered from the East—particularly by Edgar Bronfman's friends Erich Honecker and KGB general and Stasi Foreign Intelligence Service (HVA) chief Markus Wolf.

The individuals arrested in East Germany made up the core of the RAF's "second generation":

- Susanne Albrecht was arrested by East German police just days after she returned to the country from the Soviet Union. Albrecht is wanted for the June 1977 assassination of Jürgen Ponto, chairman of the Dresdner Bank. According to news accounts since her arrest on June 6, Albrecht entered East Germany from Czechoslovakia in 1980 and was immediately provided with identification papers in the name Ingrid Jaeger, and was set up in a job and an apartment. She was granted privileged *Reisekader* status, which enabled her to travel and work abroad. She apparently spent several years working in Syria and in the Soviet Union.

- Inge Viett was arrested in Magdeburg on June 12. She had been sought by West German police since 1974. Before living in Magdeburg, Viett had lived in Dresden, which was also the home of another RAF fugitive, Silke Maier-Witt, who has also been arrested.

- Monika Helbig was arrested on June 15 in Frankfurt-Oder, along with Ekkehard Seckendorf. Both were involved in the autumn 1977 kidnaping and assassination of West German industrialist Hanns-Martin Schleyer. Helbig is also a prime suspect in the Ponto assassination and in the ambush killing of West German Federal Prosecutor Martin Buback.

- Ekkehard Seckendorf, arrested along with Monika Helbig, is wanted by Italian authorities for his suspected role in the kidnaping and assassination of Italian Premier Aldo Moro in 1978. Seckendorf was also sought by West German police for a March 25, 1984 bank robbery in Würzburg. The fact that Seckendorf was involved in a RAF action in West Germany years after he had been given safehousing in the German Democratic Republic is further evidence of the top-down Stasi hand in the RAF.

- Werner Lotze was arrested in Cottbus district of East Germany on June 15. Lotze is believed by West German police to have been the trigger man in the Feb. 1, 1985 assassination of Ernst Zimmermann, the chairman of the MTU Corporation, in a Munich suburb.

- Christine Dümlein, another RAF fugitive, was arrested along with Werner Lotze in Cottbus on June 15.

According to reports in the West German press on June 19, one ex-RAF member, Peter Jürgen Boock, has provided authorities with a detailed profile of the West German group's close collaboration with Arab terrorist groups believed to have been behind other such massacres, such as the LaBelle discothèque bombing in West Berlin in 1985, and even the PanAm Flight 103 mid-air bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland in December 1988, in which 270 people perished.

According to Boock, RAF members would frequently transport sophisticated weapons to Arab and Palestinian terrorists via three major Middle East airports: Damascus, Baghdad, and Aden. All three airports are secured by specially trained Stasi units. According to Boock, RAF members, escorted by Stasi officials, would carry weapons, including bazookas, through customs check points at these three locations and turn them over to Arab terrorist squads.

## A clear chain of command

According to a front-page account of the ongoing debriefings of the arrested RAF terrorists in the June 20 *Süddeutsche Zeitung*, every single one of the fugitive terrorists, upon their arrival in East Germany, were processed through the same Stasi compound in Briesen in the Frankfurt-Oder district. There they were provided with new identity papers, jobs, apartments, automobiles—all "perks" that most G.D.R. citizens might have had to wait five to ten years to acquire, if ever.

Apparently, numbers of the RAF terrorists who were to be deployed for further operations inside West Germany were also provided with advanced irregular warfare training at a Stasi-run camp located on a lakefront site near Springsee—also in the Frankfurt-Oder district. The camp is referred to as the DKP (West German Communist Party) "secret army camp."

Counterintelligence specialists familiar with the operations of the G.D.R. Ministry of State Security have emphasized to *EIR*'s Bonn bureau Soviet experts, that it is possible

to precisely identify the Stasi officials who were the immediate overseers of the RAF commandos, by reviewing the Stasi command structure at the time the RAF deployments were occurring. The district Stasi chiefs in the areas where the RAF members were processed and then relocated, were the immediate handlers of the terrorists.

The roles of several top-ranking Stasi officials in the RAF terrorism particularly stand out. First, the minister of state security throughout the period of the Stasi's deployment of the RAF, who would have had principal oversight for the G.D.R. government, was Erich Mielke, who ran the ministry from 1958 until the end of 1989 when the Honecker regime crumbled.

From 1974-86, the chief of the Main Intelligence Administration (HVA) of the Stasi, its chief of foreign operations, was Gen. Markus Wolf. Wolf holds a similar rank in the Soviet KGB.

During the period of RAF operations staged out of East Germany, the Stasi director in the Frankfurt-Oder district was Lt. Gen. Wolfgang Schwantz. At some point in the mid-1980s, when Schwantz was promoted, he was succeeded in the Frankfurt-Oder district by Maj. Gen. Heinz Engelhardt, his protégé.

### **Post-November cosmetics**

Following the revolutionary events of November 1989, when Erich Honecker was driven from office and the hated minister of state security was forced to resign with him, it was none other than General Schwantz who was appointed to replace Mielke as the director of the so-called "reformed" Office of National Security. And according to a published account in the Feb. 5 issue of the West German weekly *Der Spiegel*, Schwantz's deputy was General Engelhardt.

Even as late as February 1990, as the final communist government of East Germany was scrambling to hold onto power under Hans Modrow, a three-man committee was appointed to oversee the dismantling of the Stasi. The members were Schwantz, Engelhardt, and Gen. Werner Grossmann, who ran the Main Department XX of the Stasi, the Department to Combat Political-Ideological Diversion and Political Underground Activities.

### **The guiding hand of the KGB**

Soviet bloc counterintelligence specialists also emphasize that at every command level, particularly the district commands and the main departments of the Stasi, the Soviet KGB had a permanent liaison officer. In other words, the Stasi was guided at every level by KGB central headquarters.

Throughout the period in question, the KGB chief was the late Soviet General Secretary Yuri Andropov, a close friend and mentor of Markus Wolf. Wolf's immediate liaison at KGB, its own director of foreign operations, was Viktor Kryuchkov. Kryuchkov, a leading member of the "Andropov Kindergarten," is today the head of the KGB, as well as a

member of Mikhail Gorbachov's Presidential Council.

Thus, the revelations now spilling onto the pages of the German press represent the most significant scandal vis-à-vis KGB involvement in international terrorism on a grand scale since the 1981-82 revelations of the role of the Bulgarian secret police in the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II.

### **'Official' cleanup is under way**

While that story has been deliberately downplayed in the U.S. news media, and has been totally ignored by the Bush administration in its quest to prove that the Cold War is "truly over," the magnitude of the revelations has not been lost on East and West German politicians. At a meeting in Bonn of East and West German parliamentarians on June 19, members of the Christian Democratic Union-East called for the prosecution of Stasi officials, members of their various front groups, and former senior East German communist party (SED) officials for a wide range of crimes against humanity. Labeling the Stasi and the SED as little more than a "continuation of national socialism," the parliamentarians charged that they were a criminal organization engaged in running concentration camps, engaging in abuse of psychiatry, and providing privileged status for terrorist criminals. Even officials of the East German Social Democrats demanded that the Stasi officials responsible for the terrorist war be put on trial with no prospect of pardon.

Stasi-KGB "superstar" Markus Wolf began feeling the heat of the revelations, after enjoying months of creampuff coverage in major Western outlets, including the *New York Times*, which praised him for practically singlehandedly bringing down the Honecker-Mielke apparatus, and ABC News, which aired a 20-minute interview segment with him. Pressed to reveal his own knowledge of the Stasi's safehousing and deploying of the RAF throughout the 1980s while he was chief of foreign operations, Wolf claimed to *Bild Zeitung* and *Junge Welt* on June 19 that he was unaware of the Stasi role. Confronted with the evidence that officials of Main Department XXII of the Stasi had been documented as aiding the arriving RAF killers, Wolf asserted that the job of the department, to combat terrorism, involved helping "former" terrorists to reintegrate into the mainstream of society. It was "charitable" work, he insisted.

### **Defeating 'Operation Trojan Horse'**

The friends of Edgar Bronfman who have now been nailed as protectors and deployers of the most brutal international terrorists of recent decades must not be allowed to avoid prosecution and severe punishment for their crimes. That applies doubly to the top-ranking KGB and Soviet government officials whose hands are equally stained with the blood of Jürgen Ponto, Hanns-Martin Schleyer, Aldo Moro, Alfred Herrhausen, and the victims of Pan Am 103.

What is at stake here is not simply justice for past crimes.

Even as the revelations pour out of East Berlin of the Stasi-KGB-RAF relationship, an ambitious redeployment is under way of an even more dangerous international subversive structure, which threatens to regroup the capabilities formerly associated with the Communist International in league with Western-based networks committed to the same evil world order.

American political prisoner Lyndon LaRouche, who was himself high on the hit-list of the KGB-Stasi-RAF assassins during the summer of 1977, has labeled this redeployment "Operation Trojan Horse." Moscow, in league with its Bronfman-linked collaborators in the West, including among the circles of Ariel Sharon in Israel, is putting into place an expanded capability for unleashing chaos against the West.

According to a June 21 article by Maurizio Blondet in the Italian daily *L'avvenire*, sometime in 1986-87 senior officials of the Warsaw Pact intelligence services began secretly plotting a redeployment of their key cadre in response to the growing likelihood of the breakup of the old communist order in Eastern Europe and inside the Soviet Union itself. According to Blondet, thousands of KGB and East bloc secret agents were organized into underground cells and maintaining contact through elaborate communication links. Key among the restructured East bloc secret police networks cited by Blondet was the reassigning of Markus Wolf's Stasi foreign agent networks directly to the KGB—now conveniently headed by his longtime KGB liaison and controller Kryuchkov.

Strong circumstantial evidence exists that this regroupment is taking advantage of agreements struck at the Malta summit between Presidents Bush and Gorbachov, in which Romania and Bulgaria have been conceded by the U.S. as "Gorby's turf." Bloc intelligence operations formerly staged out of East Germany, Czechoslovakia, and other now-"liberated" zones of Central Europe may very well be already relocated into those two hardline states.

U.S. intelligence sources have also reported to this news service with alarm, that they have detected a massive increase in communications between East Germany and certain precincts in South America known to be dominated by narco-terrorist forces and old remnants of Nazi networks believed to have been recruited by the postwar Stasi as a fifth column inside the West. Sophisticated satellite communication link-ups reportedly have been established between these networks in South America and sites in the East.

### Higher levels of the operation

Perhaps the most dangerous sign of the emerging Trojan Horse threat is to be found in certain Israeli and Israeli-connected international networks. In the May 18 issue of *EIR*, Founding Editor Lyndon LaRouche first warned of the Trojan Horse danger upon learning of a major Berlin conference of Edgar Bronfman's World Jewish Congress, which

prominently featured operatives of the KGB- and Stasi-founded "anti-fascist front" consisting of the Association of Victims of the Nazi Regime (VVN) and the London-based *Searchlight* magazine. LaRouche warned that this apparatus, including circles of Israeli warhawk Ariel Sharon, have gone over to the Gorbachov side all the way, and now constitute a major capability at the disposal of Moscow for wreaking havoc in the advanced sector, particularly inside the United States and continental Europe.

Among the likely consequences of the Bronfman-ADL deal with Gorbachov cited by LaRouche were: the sudden reemergence of a so-called "anti-Semitic" threat within the West; a dramatic increase in cheap drugs flooding the continental European markets, utilizing guns-for-drugs channels typified by the recently exposed Col. Yair Klein's dealings with the Medellín Cartel; and a resurgence of Israeli-Soviet "false flag" espionage activity modeled on the mid-1980s operations of Jonathan Jay Pollard and Shabtai Kalmanowitch.

On a more profound level, LaRouche emphasized that the "cosmopolitans" in Moscow—at the very moment that they are abandoning Bolshevism—will help fuel the spread of other forms of dionysian ideology and practice throughout the West, relying on the offspring of Georg Lukacs and the Frankfurt School networks of Theodor Adorno, Herbert Marcuse, and the Tavistock Clinic's various New Age offshoots.

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