

Report from Bonn by Rainer Apel

Parliamentary inquiry on terrorism

Investigative work is looking into the role of western intelligence agencies in assassinations like that of Herrhausen.

The sensational revelations aired on ARD television on July 1 debunking the official police theory that Alfred Herrhausen, chairman of Deutsche Bank, was assassinated by "third generation" Red Army Faction (RAF) terrorists, and suggesting that he may have been killed by western intelligence agencies, has now been forced onto the parliamentary level. Ingrid Koepe, a "Bündnis 90" parliament member from Berlin and former dissident in pre-1989 East Germany who has specialized in matters concerning intelligence agencies, has addressed a list of parliamentary questions to the German government.

The ARD revelations bolstered *EIR* charges that Herrhausen was assassinated on Nov. 30, 1989 on orders of Anglo-American financial circles intent on blocking Germany from launching an independent economic development initiative into the former communist states of eastern Europe (see *EIR*, July 17, "Was Herrhausen Killed by Western Intelligence?").

Koepe's list of questions is certain to increase the heat on the government, because it challenges conventional anti-terrorism "wisdom."

Koepe asks the government to explain why it is ruling out the possibility that "other circles that are not linked to the RAF are issuing claims of authorship in its name, using RAF insignia, linguistic and stylistic mannerisms known from earlier pamphlets of the RAF."

As the ARD special documented, the only basis for the theory that a "third generation" of terrorists exists, is a pattern of "strange disappear-

ances" of members of the left-wing terrorism support scene. There is no evidence that a structure that could be characterized as a "third generation" exists.

Another question Koepe poses is: "When and by what methods have security agencies at the federal and state levels last been able to unmistakably identify the authorship of a specific member of the RAF for a terrorist act?"

The ARD broadcast confirmed that there is no forensic evidence that could back the official theory of a "third generation," nor is there any proof that Herrhausen was killed by terrorists of the RAF.

Koepe also asks: "How does the federal government interpret documented deviations among the five-pointed stars of the RAF symbol that were depicted on the claims of authorship for the latest terrorist attacks that have been associated with the RAF?"

ARD reported that the letters claiming authorship of RAF attacks that have appeared over the past 10 years don't deserve the label of "authenticity" that experts of the BKA, the federal anti-crime agency, have given them, but rather indicate manipulations of seemingly typical insignia like the five-pointed star. Moreover, there are considerable deviations from the original star in pamphlets of the first and second generations of the RAF, as a cross-checking of letter samples by two independent experts at Mannheim University showed.

And finally, Koepe asks: "Which evaluations have led the government to determine the selection of targets

of the last attacks and the operational mode of the terrorists as typical of the RAF, so that other circles can be ruled out?"

Whenever a leading individual fell victim to terrorist attack in the past years, the authors have never been clearly identified or arrested. The question, "who benefited?" was easier to answer.

All assassinations eliminated key political and industrial figures at crucial points: Dresdner Bank chairman Jürgen Ponto was killed in 1977 a few days before he planned to depart for Ibero-America for a new initiative on debt rescheduling and economic recovery.

Herrhausen was killed in 1989 before he could realize his design for a new banking structure in eastern Europe that would have emphasized issuance of productive new credits rather than the servicing of old debt.

Treuhand chairman Detlev Rohwedder was killed in 1991 before he could shift the work of his agency from mere privatization (implying mass layoffs) to consolidation of industries in east Germany.

In all three cases, the enmity of Anglo-American monetarists was voiced publicly and privately. Had the RAF terrorists done the killing on behalf of banking circles that viewed the plans of the three Germans as a "declaration of war on free market principles"—the same way Ibero-American terrorists have removed political opponents for the dope cartels?

In the Rohwedder case, experts noted that the professionalism of the attack was atypical of known RAF modes of operation. In the Herrhausen case, experts voiced doubts over the official theory that he was killed by a remote laser-controlled bomb which the terrorists were alleged to have installed, an effort which would have taken several hours at least.