

Lauck arrest a blow against neo-Nazi international

by Angelika Beyreuther-Raimondi

On March 23, at the behest of the German Federal Crime Bureau and the state prosecutor in Hamburg, 80 apartments were raided in every state of Germany except Saarland, and right-extremist propaganda material, swastikas, weapons, and munitions were seized. The operation, codenamed "Atlantic," was aimed at members of the Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei—Auslands- und Aufbauorganisation (National Socialist German Workers Party—Foreign and Base Organization, or NSDAP-AO), founded in the United States in the early 1970s by Gary Rex Lauck. For more than 20 years it has been the top supplier of neo-Nazi literature for the German Nazi scene.

Lauck, who likes to be called Gerhard Lauck, was arrested in Denmark on March 20. The Hamburg prosecutor is confident that Lauck will be extradited to Germany. Already over recent weeks, more than 60 apartments of recipients of NSDAP-AO materials have been searched.

Lauck had founded the NSDAP-AO as a "corporation for the common good" in Lincoln, Nebraska in 1972. The group is conceived as a direct successor to Hitler's NSDAP. Meanwhile, Lauck distributes his bimonthly *NS-Kampfruf*—saturated with swastikas and the most gruesome Nazi propaganda—in 10 European languages.

Recruitment to a 'Brown Army Faction'

In one 1993 issue of the *NS-Kampfruf*s, the "theoretical possibilities of armed resistance against the German state" were discussed. The NSDAP-AO also distributes by diskette the personal computer journal *Endsieg*. This way, every "comrade" can become an expert on assembling and manufacturing firebombs and high-explosive bombs, delayed-action and detonation techniques, and explosives, with detailed bomb-building instructions provided by computer or in print. Lauck also published the terror manual *Eine Bewegung in Waffen (A Movement in Arms)*, promoting the leftist Red Army Faction (RAF) as a model for the buildup of a kind of Brown Army Faction. Among the targets for acts of sabotage are: "destruction of broadcast installations for the media system," and "disruption of transport means and infrastructure" such as airports, railway stations, and bridges. Also important are banks, in order to "create some financial elbow room for the strike groups." Sympathy is declared with the RAF

for opening a "weak spot in the system" with the April 1991 killing of Detlev Karsten Rohwedder, the head of the Treuhand agency for administering the conversion of former state-owned industries in the former communist East Germany.

But this orientation to "brown" terrorism is not new. Already in the 1970s, calls for the assassinations of politicians appeared in NSDAP-AO literature. Just like the left extremist and terrorist publications, Lauck, printed rules of conduct for "comrades," in case they are imprisoned and interrogated by authorities. By the early 1980s, Lauck was giving out literature on how to make explosives. Because Lauck's organization had built up a network of underground cells in Germany acting independently of each other for two decades, and "autonomous" structures had been emanating from the neo-Nazi scene for a considerable time, there is a risk that these terrorist instructions could be carried out.

In a June 1993 report titled *Strategy of Tension*, an investigative team from EIR News Agency in Germany researched the case of the NSDAP-AO and Lauck, and concluded that his Nazi undertaking had been worked out from the start with the full protection of U.S. government agencies. On March 26, 1974, the Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei—Auslands- und Aufbauorganisation was registered in Nebraska under that name, as the precondition for setting up a bank account and other business activities. The official in charge, Allen Jay Beermann, told *EIR* reporter Anton Chaitkin that the decision to register Lauck's Nazi organization had been made by him and other government officials, including criminal justice officials. Thus it can be concluded that the FBI has known all of Lauck's writings and his international contacts since that time.

Several times in the past, German authorities have gone after the NSDAP-AO's network, but without getting any official U.S. help. In March 1989, some 2,000 persons all over West Germany were investigated, and a mountain of evidentiary material was seized, including neo-Nazi propaganda from the United States and Canada. The police and justice system assumed that this large-scale attack would halt the further spread of neo-Nazi materials.

This did not occur. An officer of the German Bureau for Defense of the Constitution described the lack of U.S. interest in dispelling the specter of neo-Nazism on Sept. 12, 1993 in the weekly *Welt am Sonntag*: "For the FBI and CIA, Lauck is uninteresting, because he is just a propagandist and not a perpetrator of violent acts. If they would only make his mailing list available to us, we could go after the people who are illegally circulating his stuff in Germany."

Recently, Lauck's office in Nebraska was linked up by modem with the electronic networks of the Nazis in Germany, Scandinavia, and America. These communications links can be precisely investigated. One would hope that improved German-American ties under the Clinton administration would also lead to real cooperation against neo-Nazi networks on both sides of the Atlantic.