

II. Riots at Wackersdorf: a new level of violence

Pentecost terror

Over the weekend of May 17-18, the Bavarian village of Wackersdorf became the synonym for a new quality of mob violence against the state of Germany. Using the pretext of protesting nuclear technology, terrorists and their "peaceful" supporters gathered at the construction site of Germany's planned nuclear-fuel reprocessing plant. The demonstrators called for an end to nuclear technology, which they claimed had been proven "dangerous to man" by the Soviet disaster at Chernobyl. Their leaders, echoing Soviet leaders, claimed that the Wackersdorf facility represented a project "to build a German nuclear bomb."

Bivouacked at a camp of several hundred wooden huts and tents, more than 4,000 prepared themselves for the big rally on Pentecost Sunday.

On that morning, May 18, the main group of several thousand moved toward the construction site, which was guarded by about 1,000 policemen armed with water cannons, posted behind the construction fences. Slogans proclaimed, "Nuclear power means war on the people," or "Wackersdorf will build the German A-bomb."

This was not a riot, but a premeditated, very well organized attack on the police and the facility. When the demonstrators came close enough to the construction fence, attackers formed, estimated at 1,200-1,300, to strike at the police with slingshots, steel bolts, stones, firecrackers, and Molotov cocktails. The *mêlée* left 183 policemen injured, with 24 of them receiving serious injuries such as bone fractures. Had there not been extensive use of tear gas, dropped from police helicopters, the violence would most likely have left several policemen dead on the scene.

Police spokesmen, caught off guard by the attack, were in a state of shock. The character of the attack was new: The attackers advanced in three waves. The first provoked the police to move outside the fence and counterattack, arresting some. Then the second wave hit the exposed police full force. The surprised police squads were then hit by a third wave, which carried out targeted attacks on individual policemen. Firecrackers and Molotov cocktails were thrown into the faces of policemen, as were steel bolts and sharp steel splinters.

The ability of the police to respond was made more difficult by the fact that the hard-core terrorists were operating apart from the 3,000 "non-violent" protesters gathered close to the fences. The hard core

withdrew there after each new assault, the "non-violent protesters" serving the violent attackers as a sort of "human wall" against the police.

This technique has been perfected by the radical anti-nuclear movement, and has been used several times, at other nuclear power projects, and at the Frankfurt Airport runway construction site.

The scene at Wackersdorf was accompanied by acts of violence and sabotage against railroad tracks, electricity towers, police stations, and trains, for several kilometers around. At the same time the mob was attacking the police at the construction fence in Wackersdorf, another smaller mob stopped a passenger train between Schwandorf and Fuerth, smashed windows, stole fire extinguishers, and harassed passengers. Several hours later, a freight train was stopped, the cars were decoupled, and the conductor's cabin bombarded with stones. The conductor managed to flee with his locomotive, leaving the freight cars behind, which were demolished by the mob. Numerous police cars and vehicles belonging to companies working on the construction at Wackersdorf—even several kilometers distance from the main construction site—were set on fire or smashed.

The logistical operation of the mob was carried out by squads of between 30 and 50 persons on heavy motorcycles, which circumvented the police barricades on the roads. In several cases, police managed to stop such squads only at gunpoint, but without arresting anyone. Radio communication was used by the mob during the whole operation to connect the various confrontation theaters and to report on police moves.

The riots continued on Monday, May 19, with more sabotage of railroad tracks, attacks against police cars around Wackersdorf, and the like. Telephone poles were cut and barricades built on roads. On Sunday night, a high-voltage electricity tower was demolished.

On Monday morning, a group of 30 policemen in two vans drove into an ambush of about 1,200 rioters, of which 300 began attacking the vans directly. Police helicopters had to fly in at low altitude to fire tear gas grenades into the mob. Police spokesmen said later that the scene had been "close to a catastrophe," and also close to the use of guns by the encircled police. Officials stated that the use of firearms would have been fully justified in this life-threatening situation.

The riots and acts of sabotage continued throughout Monday night. Railroad tracks were blocked by trees in several locations, telephone poles destroyed, and windows of police stations in the region smashed. On Tuesday, a mob of about 50 on heavy motorbikes attacked a police station, with the intention of freeing three rioters imprisoned there. Again, the mob was chased away only at gunpoint.

On Tuesday, police finally had brought in enough reinforcements to be able to clear out the rioters' encampment. This removed at least one of the logistical bases from where the mob had been operating, but acts of sabotage continued.

Of about 1,200 violent rioters, police succeeded in arresting only 22.

Behind the masks

While the identity of more than 1,000 of the masked attackers at Wackersdorf were not determined, their origin is certainly known. The Pentecost attacks had been building for several months, and were prepared propagandistically and logistically by the same groups which had launched the violent anti-nuclear riots of previous years.

Tageszeitung, one of the principal mouthpieces of the pro-terrorist underground in West Germany, prior to the attack, had reported that "anti-nuclear groups" from Brokdorf, Lueneburg, and Grohnde were part of the mobilization against Wackersdorf. These were the sites where the

first violent attacks occurred, during the period from 1977 to 1981. Also groups from the anti-runway movement at Frankfurt Airport poured into the Wackersdorf area. The anti-runway movement, which emerged in late 1981, has become the training ground for terrorists and their fellow-travelers, whose groups test their mobility and strength against the police guarding the runway area.

It is from the anti-runway movement that connections to violent opponents of Japan's Narita Airport, have been cultivated over the years. It is from the Narita-Frankfurt connection, that the image of civil war against the state has been built up in the minds of the most radical groups. Film clips of the bloody battles between the Narita protesters and the Japanese police in the early 1970s have been shown at "solidarity events," as well as films of the violent riots at the German nuclear power sites Brokdorf (1977-81), Grohnde (1978-80), and Gorleben (1979-81).

Thus, a network of some 10-12 thousand violence-prone Jacobin "streetfighters" in Germany, organized around the Revolutionary Cells, the "Autonomous" movement, the Nicaragua Solidarity Committees, various anarchistic groups, and the like has been carefully nurtured and built up in Germany over the past 15 years. In May, this Jacobin network declared Wackersdorf the center of violent confrontation with the German state, which they call "the pig system."

These groups hold public meetings; their intentions are known, as are their targets. The so-called Anti-Imperialist Congress of 900-1,000 extremists, which took place at Frankfurt University in February 1986, discussed the formation of a European-wide terror front, as well as the importance of the "anti-nuclear movement." A document of more than 60 pages was circulated among congress participants, which mentioned Wackersdorf as one of the "fronts," where the linkage of terrorist, anti-NATO, and anti-nuclear groups was to occur.

Thus, it came as no surprise, that portraits of Ulrike Meinhof and Gudrun Ensslin, two of the founders of the Red Army Faction (Baader-Meinhof) gang, appeared on posters at the rioters' camp at Wackersdorf as early as March 1986.

Several generations of radical "squatters" (occupiers of abandoned housing, principally in Berlin), ecology extremists, "anti-imperialists," punks-ters, and motorcycle gangs have helped to produce a hard core of about 2,000 German youth willing to commit violence against the state. This circle of extremists, which overlaps the terrorist organizations (Red Army Faction, Revolutionary Cells, the "Autonomous"), has built its own health service, its own communication network, its own logistics, its own police counter-surveillance, and can be assembled by telephone chains at any point in Germany in 24 hours.

There are around 10,000 fellow-travelers of the hard-core terrorists, who would join acts of violence at little risk to life and limb. They build encampments and help with the logistics—from food, blankets, and radios, to megaphones and munitions needed for sabotage. These groups are violence-prone enough to cause problems for the police, even when they gang up in mobs smaller than the one at Wackersdorf. The police in Germany have had bloody experience with them for more than 15 years, and clashes have become more violent over the past 7 or 8 years.

In direct confrontations with such groups, the police, who are under a great deal of political pressure not to use weapons, can gain the upper hand only if they have a clear majority. At Wackersdorf, 1,000 policemen confronted more than 1,000 rioters, who were committed to killing.

The role of the Greens

Law enforcement officials are confronted with a much more difficult political problem in dealing with such attacks. Eleven years of campaigns for "ecology" and against nuclear power have produced several hundred thousand German citizens, who consider a "green" issue a higher value than the state and its institutions. All in all, the ecology movement in Germany adds up to more than 2 million citizens—the voting base of the Green Party.

Not only is the Green Party a political harbor for terrorists, with some even protected by gaining seats in state and federal parliaments; it has also become the main political mouthpiece for anti-nuclear hysteria. The Green Party held its national convention at just the time of the Wackersdorf attacks, and cheered on the terrorist violence.

The Green convention took place in Hanover, more than 500 kilometers from Wackersdorf, but stayed in close communications with the rioters. When news of the first bloody clashes with, and casualties inflicted on, the police at Wackersdorf was communicated to the convention, the delegates applauded enthusiastically.

The atmosphere in Hanover had been prepared by leading Greens like national executive member Rainer Trampert, who termed "every single one of the 374 nuclear power reactors in the world a declaration of war against humanity." He added that all nuclear projects had to be stopped, since they were "acts of state terrorism" and "nuclear murder against the people."

The Wackersdorf project, the planned construction of Germany's reprocessing plant for spent nuclear fuels, was declared a "project to build a German nuclear bomb." This absurd charge sounded like the propaganda put out by the Soviets, the East bloc, and the German Communist Party (DKP). It was no accident. The "verbal agreement" of the Greens and the Soviets perhaps reflected the fact that Trampert had been in Moscow, conferring with Soviet President Andrei Gromyko and other Kremlin officials, just a few days before the Green convention in Hanover began.

The way the Greens reacted to the Chernobyl disaster indicated how much they view the world through the screen of the Kremlin's propaganda. They called the nuclear accident "a warning to mankind," and called for the immediate closing down of nuclear reactors in Germany. For the first three weeks after the Chernobyl accident, the Greens refused to say a single critical word against the Soviets, because they didn't want "to join ranks with the anti-Soviet campaign in the Western media."

The post-Chernobyl hysteria campaign in Germany about how nuclear radiation would contaminate West German food, was whipped up prominently by the Greens, who considered this a transmission belt for their mobilization against Wackersdorf. Green Party member Joschka Fischer, minister of ecology affairs in the state of Hesse, first boycotted an effort by his minister colleagues in other states to get the hysteria under control; then he marched ahead extreme decrees banning the sale of all fresh produce in Hesse, and then he presented a document calling for the "withdrawal from nuclear technology at all costs."

Fischer is prominently linked to the anti-Wackersdorf mobilization. On Dec. 12, 1985, he was sworn in as minister of ecology affairs in Hesse, and two days later he appeared as one of the prominent guests at the anti-nuclear encampment near Wackersdorf. For several years, Fischer has been co-publisher of the Frankfurt rag *Pflasterstrand*, which is a mouthpiece for numerous violent groups, including the movement against the Frankfurt Airport runway. *Pflasterstrand* is also one of the most anti-American publications in the Frankfurt region.

Apart from the Green Party leadership, the organizers of the anti-

The German Communist Party

Wackersdorf project itself also maintain direct contact with Moscow. The leader of the ecology group at Amberg (near Wackersdorf), Helmut Wilhelm, one of the organizers of the protest actions feeding into the Pentecost riots at Wackersdorf, spent time in Moscow in January. He had been invited by the Soviets. By the time he arrived, the Soviets were already attacking Wackersdorf as part of "a plan to build a German nuclear bomb."

In short, the Soviets picked the target, and devised the propaganda context, for the Jacobin assault on the German reprocessing facility.

Far more important than the more numerous, but also heteronomous Greens, is the tiny German Communist Party (DKP). A proto-Stalinist cadre organization, dependent on an annual subsidy of 50-60 million deutschemarks (\$22-26 million) from East Germany, the DKP has been a central element in the emerging of the West German "anti-nuclear" Jacobin movement.

The DKP has helped, with funds, manpower, and its printing capacities, to build the movement against nuclear power in the West since the mid-1970s. The party organ, *Unsere Zeit*, has been a mouthpiece of the anti-nuclear and anti-American movement for more than 10 years. Soviet nuclear technology, of course, has never been attacked by *Unsere Zeit*. The DKP also played a prominent role in building and broadening the mass movement against the "NATO airport project" of the Frankfurt runway between 1981 and 1983. The DKP printing press also did good service to slander critics of the movement as "CIA agents."

Thus it came as no surprise, that from the very beginning of the protest actions against Wackersdorf, the DKP was present. Members of the DKP from the region around Wackersdorf helped to build the first anti-nuclear encampment in August 1985, and the second one in December 1985. At the end of 1985, *Unsere Zeit* reported: "The chairman of the Regensburg DKP section personally helped to raise the wooden cross of resistance" in the encampment. On Jan. 7, 1986, *Unsere Zeit* revealed: "In the construction of the camp, the logistical supply, DKP members from Oberpfalz [region around Wackersdorf] participated. At the same time, the communists organized information campaigns in the cities."

Since then, the DKP and its press have given the growing protest movement against Wackersdorf regular support. The DKP press portrayed the riots of Pentecost weekend as "police brutality" against the demonstrators.

For public purposes, the DKP has maintained a certain political distance from the Greens. It sticks to the idea of a "popular front," rather than organizational merger with other parties. This leaves room for political and financial blackmail, for changes of alliances, and shifting political emphasis. The DKP has, for example, defended Soviet nuclear reactors even after Chernobyl, attacked nuclear power in the Western countries, criticized the Greens as "irrational," and at the same time, supported the movement against Wackersdorf—all without the slightest ideological problems.

If politically convenient, more direct alliances are made, however, and in the case of the movement against Wackersdorf, the DKP has dropped its caution and merged with the Greens for the Bavarian state elections in October. Thus the DKP's election front, "Peace List," has placed its member Schramm on the slate which the Green Party from Mittelfranken is fielding in the upcoming elections. Mittelfranken is the region directly neighboring on the Oberpfalz region, where Wackersdorf is located, and contributed a sizable contingent to the recent riots.

In addition to the direct infiltration of the Green and anti-nuclear

In addition to the direct infiltration of the Green and anti-nuclear movement by DKP cadre, there is the direct role of the East German intelligence service in steering these movements. A report of the West German federal interior ministry mentions "active measures against the nuclear industry in the Federal Republic of Germany" as part of the long list of "active measures" by Eastern agencies aimed at destabilizing the German state. The report, which was published in February 1985, says:

"According to current evaluations, the Chief Investigation Department of the Ministry for State Security [East German central intelligence service—MfS or Stasi] had plans in the mid-70s for long-term measures directed at severely disrupting the economic development and economic capabilities of Germany. Through influence and support of press campaigns against the supposed dangers of nuclear power designed for civilian use, the intent was to achieve a broad mobilization of the population against nuclear facilities.

"As an example of a planned but ultimately not realized action, there were deliberations in the Stasi to deposit small, harmless amounts of radioactive substances in the surroundings of nuclear power stations or processing plants. The projected nuclear processing plant of Gorleben was chosen as a target. For reasons of political opportunity, this measure was delayed. The Stasi reasoned that it would be a bigger success, if the project could be hit with such a measure shortly before the completion of the plant."

Traditionally, West German intelligence services and the media are ordered by the faction of the government around Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher to "keep their hands off" such stories.

Social Democrats join the fray

The German Social Democratic Party (SPD) is playing a leading part in the escalation of the irregular warfare focused on the nuclear industry. Opposing the Wackersdorf project from its very beginning, SPD officials in the Wackersdorf district mainly played the role of legal sabotage of the plant. The two district commissioners, Hans Schuierer and Benno Zierer, delayed the beginning of construction of the reprocessing plant, and encouraged the actions of the "movement."

Both Schuierer and Zierer were regular participants in anti-nuclear rallies on the site, and both have attacked the police for "brutality against peaceful demonstrators." Police actions prior to the Wackersdorf confrontation were called "terrorism in its pure form" by Schuierer, and did not change his view even after the Wackersdorf rioting, but instead attacked the Bavarian government. Schuierer is now facing disciplinary charges by his superiors.

On a national level, the SPD has denounced the Wackersdorf project, and called for the end of all nuclear construction in Germany. Concerning the Greens, the SPD pursues a policy of close political alliance, and in the state of Hesse, has even formed a coalition government with the Greens. The SPD also maintains close contacts with the liberal government coalition partner, the Free Democrats. The Free Democrats have also denounced the Wackersdorf project.

Because of its position of power nationally, the SPD, riddled with Soviet agents of influence, plays a much more destructive role than the Greens and DKP taken together. The SPD forms a political shelter for both the Green Party and the DKP, helping them to proceed with their subversive activities. For the SPD, the two minor parties, and the "movement" are pawns in its game to decouple Germany from the U.S. nuclear umbrella, and then from membership in NATO. Encouraging the movement against nuclear power, means an entry into a massive movement against (Western) nuclear weapons for the SPD.

SPD executive member Erhard Eppler, addressing a major anti-nuclear rally at Wackersdorf on Feb. 12, summed up this political game, when he defended the radical ecologists: "I always keep telling my friends in the SPD, these are your friends, they make your policy possible."

The Bavarian state section of the SPD, which wants to topple Christian Social Union governor Franz-Josef Strauss in the October elections, has documented how these "friends" indeed make their policy possible. When on March 16, riots near Wackersdorf injured 22 policemen, Bavarian Justice Minister Lang accused the SPD of having encouraged the clashes through its alliance with the "movement," and of "allying with enemies of the state." The SPD parliamentary group marched out of parliament in protest, demanding that Lang resign or be dismissed from office. On all issues pertaining to security questions, the SPD has boycotted the parliamentary sessions ever since, as a sign of "fundamental disagreement."

Since this incident, and even more so since Chernobyl, SPD spokesmen have repeatedly charged the Bavarian government and the police with "exaggeration" and "brutality." On Easter day, the whole state executive of the Bavarian SPD joined ranks with the anti-nuclear movement at Wackersdorf for an "Easter rally." This one remained relatively non-violent, however.

During the Pentecost demonstration the SPD prominents did not put in an appearance at Wackersdorf. But SPD state slate-leader Fred Hiersemann and his energy policy spokesman, Hans Kolo, one of the leading anti-nuclear voices in the Bavarian SPD, were in East Berlin the day after the bloody clashes of Wackersdorf. They were shaking hands with Socialist Unity Party chairman Erich Honecker and discussing "ecology issues."

Requirements for security forces

Very few political leaders in Germany have responded adequately to the new escalation of violence. The CDU/CSU federal parliamentary faction chief, Alfred Dregger, commented on the Wackersdorf riots: "For the first time after the Hitler dictatorship, the threat is not coming from the outside, but from within." He added that under red-green (SPD and Green Party) alliances, democratic rule would be abolished. "The right of the fist would take over more and more, as it did under the rule of the brown power."

State Attorney-General Kurt Rebmann also issued a harsh warning: The rioters of Wackersdorf represent a possible pool of personnel for the terrorist Red Army Faction, Revolutionary Cells, and other terror groups. The spokesman for the conservative police union came out with similar statements.

For years, competent security and police specialists have demanded effective measures against the escalation of street violence. The first measure must be the creation of a federal effective special file on violent rioters and the terrorist support apparatus, which would allow effective police measures *before* violence breaks out. This measure was constantly sabotaged by former Interior Minister Gerhard Baum, a Free Democrat, until 1983. Since then, SPD- and SPD/Green governed states have kept up such sabotage of internal security. Anti-police groups controlled by Greens, Communist Party specialists, or even "former" terrorists have gained influence.

A second urgent measure is the reinstatement of the anti-riot law which was thrown out in 1970, when the Willy Brandt government took over and started a vast sweep against the German security apparatus. This law guaranteed efficient crowd control, since if violence were committed, the police could issue three warnings, and if unheeded, then the

whole crowd, violent or “non-violent,” could be subject to arrest or other measures. Today, violent criminals can always hide behind the human wall of “non-violent” demonstrators, preventing police measures and resulting in almost no arrests.

Another requirement is the introduction of police shotguns and pistols designed for anti-riot ammunition, which could keep attacking crowds at a distance of 50 meters.

These minimal measures will have to be implemented immediately, in order to demonstrate that the state is not willing to compromise with the kind of mob rule which destroyed the Weimar Republic in the early 1930s.

Terror in Lower Saxony's streets

The increase in violent, sometimes armed attacks against candidates and election workers of the *Patriots for Germany* during its electoral campaign in the state of Lower Saxony dramatically reveals how far out of control the so-called “militant scene” in West Germany has already become. The attacks from the Green, left-extremist, and terrorist milieu reached their peak in attempted murder, but included all forms of terror: personal intimidation, verbal abuse, telephone threats against candidates of the Patriots; the SA-style destruction of information tables and posters, slashing of automobile tires, and attacks on election meetings by up to 200 “professional demonstrators.”

A striking feature of the actions against the Patriots was the strong participation of the *The Socialist German Young Workers*, (SDAJ), the youth organization of the *German Communist Party* (DKP).

The comparison to the final phases of the Weimar Republic is obvious,



Street terror in Wackersdorf: On May 20, 1986, 2,000 partially masked demonstrators surrounded a police patrol and set police cars on fire.

An eyewitness report

especially since the "terror in the streets" has apparently made such an impression on the editors of the mass media that neither the outrages described below, nor the repeated massive deployment of police made necessary by those outrages was even reported in the press of Lower Saxony, let alone on television.

The actions of the enemies of the Patriots came to a climax in the disruption of the final major Patriot event on June 12 in Braunschweig, by a horde of 200 professional demonstrators from the autonomous, pro-terrorist, punk milieu. The following is an eye-witness report:

"On the day of the major event, the attempt had earlier been made to obstruct a Patriot motorcade and a meeting in downtown Braunschweig. Because of the strong presence of plainclothes police, the hoodlums decided not to employ the objects that they had brought in their obviously stuffed pockets and in the sleeves of their leather jackets, but to merely disrupt the Patriots' speeches with deafeningly loud alarm whistles or with their constant, hysterical shouting of 'Nazis get out,' 'Fascist swine,' and so forth. Interestingly, the rioters had photographers present who constantly took pictures of Patriots' members and plainclothes policemen; others carefully wrote down all license numbers. Characteristically, they also carefully weighed the strength of their own "troops" against those of their enemy, in order to determine whether or not an attack could be carried out successfully under the circumstances.

"In the days before the event, a leaflet from the 'Anti-Fascists of FH Braunschweig' was distributed, in which the appeal was made 'to prevent the electoral meeting of the Patriots.' The arguments given as to why the meeting had to be prevented are of interest: 'They [the Patriots] demand a strict prohibition of the Greens, building up the nuclear industry, and complete participation in the SDI.' In a leaflet entitled 'Peoples' Front Against Reaction, Fascism, and War,' the demand was also made that the Patriots' meeting be prevented, and the Patriots were slandered as the 'fascists of today.' The time and place of the Patriots' meeting were announced, with the request that readers be there on time. In small print, the names of the individuals who had rented out the meeting space were given, along with other restaurants these individuals also rent out—a veiled invitation to demolish one or more of those restaurants as revenge against having rented to the Patriots.

"On the evening of the meeting, militant autonomists and professional demonstrators gathered directly in front of the meeting place about an hour before the event was to begin. The number of demonstrators grew to 200—a number unprecedented in Braunschweig. There were no casual demonstrators present; these were exclusively hard-core, mostly armed, professional demonstrators, with kerchief masks and leather clothing, exactly the sort that had been at Wackersdorf and Brokdorf. That many people who came to attend the meeting turned back on seeing this situation, not daring to go in, is easily imaginable. Those who did dare to go on were massively attacked verbally, even physically. The building was surrounded by these chaotics [*chaoten*]. Only sensible measures by the police, who were present in sufficient strength, prevented massive violent attacks against and inside the building where the meeting was held.

"The chaotics made no pretense about their intentions. They shouted continually, 'Drag the swine out! Bust them in the mouth!' or 'We'll get you all, you fascists!' Slogans were chanted against the police: 'Police protect fascists!' and there was considerable fighting on numerous oc-



Terror in the streets in Lower Saxony: 200 thugs—"autonomous" demonstrators and punkers—parade in front of an electoral meeting of the Patriots for Germany on June 12, 1986, in Braunschweig.

casions between chaotics and police. Because the chaotics seriously wanted to act on their slogans such as 'We'll get you all,' there were incidents such as the arrest of a female punker from an extremely violent and well-known punk group from Wolfsburg, who had shot at a policeman with a slingshot. A screwdriver was confiscated from another chaotic that, used as a knife, can produce severe injury.

"Given this situation, those in charge of the meeting decided to adjourn after a short speech by the leading candidate, to make sure that meeting participants could make a safe exit. As it turned out, the rioters were not merely concerned with breaking up the meeting, but quite clearly with making deliberate attacks against Patriot members, who were in part escorted on the run to their cars by police. The rioters then attempted to attack individual automobiles, which led to considerable property damage—external mirrors were smashed, tires slashed, etc.

"A particularly dangerous situation developed as two leather-clad autonomists followed the car in which the American guest speaker, Janice Hart, and her husband were riding. The two autonomists began a systematic pursuit. When Mrs. Hart's car stopped at a red light, one of the rioters jumped out of his car and went over to Hart's car with drawn weapon. The worst was prevented by the quick-thinking driver, who immediately sped away, and did not stop until he came to some of the police cars that were present in great numbers in the area. The weapon involved was a gas gun, which can cause severe injury and is indistinguishable to a layman from a revolver loaded with live ammunition. Both autonomists were arrested.

"Actual Weimar conditions! It was not only the intimidation, the threats, the bodily harm to the meeting participants that recalled Weimar—the intimidation of the host, who was necessarily fearful for his property, also showed parallels to the storm troopers of the Weimar Republic."

There followed a number of even more violent attacks and attempts at intimidation against the Patriots through telephone terror, bomb threats, spray-painted slogans, and property damage:

Celle, May 23: A Patriots' election worker only narrowly avoided

Spray-paint and bomb threats

severe or fatal injury when an individual speeding by in a motorcycle sidecar threw a pavement stone through the windshield of the Patriots' public-address car. The stone hit the windshield at head level. Fortunately, the driver had the presence of mind to duck, which prevented the plaster stone from hitting him in the head with full force. The driver was only slightly injured; the stone also smashed the back window and wooden frame of the back seat. Had the stone hit the driver's head, he would very possibly have been fatally injured, which was clearly the intent of the individuals who committed the act.

Wolfsburg, May 20: A punk group consisting of 10 individuals destroyed a Patriots' information table, and seriously injured the arm of a female Patriots' member.

Wolfsburg, May 31: The same punker groups violently attacked a Patriots' election worker, and threatened him with a knife.

Early June: A Green sympathizer hit a Patriot election worker on the side of the head, bursting the Patriots' eardrum.

Norderney, June 2: Approximately 10 chaotics with faces painted white intended to disrupt a meeting, but were prevented from entering the hall.

Norden, June 2: Twenty Greens and members of the SDAJ tried to stop a Patriots' meeting, screaming slogans such as "Nazi swine," "LaRouche = NSDAP/AO" (Nazi Party). The female restaurant owner was intimidated by their demand to know why she "allowed the fascists to hold a meeting here." Only police presence prevented anything worse from happening.

Telephone terror against candidates: Anonymous callers abused candidates with remarks such as "Haven't you taken off your brown uniform yet?" "Nazi swine, I'll finish you off." A farmer-candidate for the Patriots received calls warning, "We'll blow up your farm." The wire fence of the cattle enclosure of another farmer-candidate was cut one night.

Spray-painted slogans in Melle: A campaign of harassment was instituted against the Patriot candidate in Melle. All his campaign posters were torn down throughout the area, and slogans such as "Patriots Go Home" were spray-painted in large letters on the street in front of his



Two hundred thugs successfully disrupt an electoral meeting on June 12, 1986 in Braunschweig, despite a strong police presence.

house. A large black swastika was painted on his house, and, at the bus stop directly across from his house, the threat was spray-painted: "Patriot go home. Better dead than Patriot. You swine! On Friday, you're done for!" (A Patriot meeting was planned in Melle that Friday.) The threat was signed with a z placed in a circle.

Melle, June 6: On short notice, Greens and other organizations announced a demonstration against nuclear power, and marched directly past the Patriots' meeting place. About 25% of the marchers came to the Patriots' meeting, and around 15 individuals attempted to disrupt the meeting inside the hall, while the others caused a disturbance outside. After the meeting, the demonstrators formed a sort of cordon, through which the meeting participants had to pass, accompanied by insults and abuse.

Hanover, June 10: A Patriots' meeting in the downtown area was so disrupted by a large punker group that it had to be canceled. The punkers were mostly dressed in black; they all carried beer bottles and made it clear that they intended to break up the meeting: "Fascists, swine, Nazi swine" were the standard insults on this occasion. That evening, the same punker group, in part coming from the *Independent Kornstrasse Youth Center*, which serves as a center of violence in Hamburg, appeared again at the meeting. There were fights at the door, and here, too, only a significant police presence ensured the peaceful course of the meeting.

Hanover, June 11: In addition to a large number of anonymous threatening calls at the central election office of the Patriots, a telephoned bomb threat was received at 12:59 p.m. The caller said: "This is the Liberation Front of Moscow. At 4:00 p.m. Central European Time today, a bomb is going to blow you up." Around 12:45 p.m. on the same day, the words "Get out, Nazis" were painted on the office entrance door in red spray-paint.

The number of violent attacks against the electoral campaign of the Patriots, committed with great criminal energy, allows only one conclusion: If the repetition of Weimar conditions in the coming months is to be stopped, then "able-bodied democrats" must take a stand for their constitutional state, and defend their police, their army, and their institutions against this massive attack.