

UNDERGROUND ORGANIZATION INFILTRATES AND SPIES

By Bjoern Henriksen

"I cannot deny that it is an American intelligence organization, but it is impossible to say whether it is CIA or others who are behind it," the Vice Chairman of the Social Democratic Party, Kjeld Olesen, says about the organization ELC, European Labor Committees, which has made persistent efforts to infiltrate the Social Democratic parties in Denmark and Sweden and which has a wide net of cells all over Western Europe.

ELC leads a strongly anti-American and anti-CIA campaign under the pretense of being a pro-Communist enterprise, but investigations carried out in Sweden show that the organization has received help from Rockefeller's bank, the Chase Manhattan Bank, where it has borrowed \$48,000 with a guarantee of a value of \$16,000. This despite the fact that ELC talks about "Rockefeller fascism" in its propaganda.

Sabotage and Infiltration

ELC spreads a confused, apparently Communist, message, sabotages political meetings, and infiltrates socialist organizations.

To all outward appearances the organization is a poor socialist organization, but it is a fact that it has a huge telecommunications system and systematically collects data which is passed on to computers. What the purpose is and who is behind it is still somewhat of a mystery. American authorities refuse to have anything to do with the organization and strongly denounces it. Here in Denmark it has conducted its activities from an office on Oesterbro, incidentally as neighbor of DSU (Danish Social Democratic Youth).

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But ELC has apparently not been very successful with its infiltration attempts here in Denmark. Kjeid Olesen states that the organization's people have been at Social Democratic meetings in a couple of cases. The last time they came to SIH's (Social Democratic Party in the capital) first of May arrangement, but were turned away.

ELC has had greater luck with regard to DSU, where they actually succeeded in infiltrating the organization.

The DSU chairman, Frode Moeller Nicolajsen, states that it has been necessary to expel a member who worked for ELC and that DSU has adopted an expulsion provision for people who have anything to do with ELC.

The Police Intelligence Service does not say anything about ELC, but is keeping the organization under observation. It is believed that its activities are on the down grade. The Secretary of the Social Democratic Party, Kuno Kjaerulf, says that ELC has not had success in its naive way, but that the organization clearly has tried to infiltrate and cause dissension.

While the infiltration attempts have been rebuffed, the organization has had a fine opportunity to collect information about Danish politicians, and it is quite well informed. Investigations carried out in Sweden show that.

#### Systematic Collection

The Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme's press secretary, Pär Fagerström, says to "Aftonbladet" that ELC systematically collects everything it can concerning the leading Social Democratic persons,

their meetings, public appearances, statements, etc. Everything simple and concrete information which is suitable for data processing. When Palme met the West German Chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, in Sweden this summer, a representative of the organization's press bureau, IPS (International Press Service) called him and asked if the two statesmen had met the Danish Traffic Minister Niels Mathiasen. IPS knew that Niels Mathiasen was going to be in Norrland, Sweden. Fagerström found the question interesting because no newspapers or telegram bureaus would place any importance on whether they had met Niels Mathiasen or not. According to Fagerström, this case can be explained only as part of a systematic collection of information.

Another example is when Olof Palme and the Finnish Prime Minister Sorsa met in Kastrup Airport in connection with the Nordic Council meeting in Reykjavik. It was an improvised meeting, and only one Danish journalist was present, namely an employee of Ritzau's Bureau. But two IPS men also came. Incidentally, they were thrown out and made an awful fuss afterwards.

ELC's information from Denmark and Sweden is being sent via telex to Wiesbaden in West Germany, from where it is sent on to the organization's headquarters in New York.

This is expensive traffic, and there obviously are considerable resources behind the organization.

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