

# German Resistance leader exposes 'strategy of tension' by the PDS

by Edward Carl and Our Wiesbaden Bureau

Speaking to a Feb. 15 forum in Berlin, the life-long social-democratic Resistance leader Hermann Kreutzer gave a detailed intelligence profile of the Party of Democratic Socialism (PDS), the "post-communist" successor to East Germany's former ruling party, which is now emerging as an important political force in reunified Germany. The PDS is not really a new party at all, he stressed, but the old Socialist Unity Party (SED), in a new guise.

The forum was sponsored by the political party Civil Rights Movement-Solidarity (BüSo), whose chairman is Helga Zepp LaRouche. It was convened to present a newly released German-language *EIR* Strategic Study, titled "Strategy of Tension: PDS, Narco-Terrorism, and the Post-Communist International," whose principal author, Angelika Beyreuther-Raimondi, also spoke. One of the principal components of the new report is a 23-page interview with Kreutzer, whose life has been dedicated to the struggle against both the Nazi and communist dictatorships, which existed virtually continuously in the eastern portion of Germany from 1933 through the 1990 reunification of Germany.

## Who and what is behind the PDS?

Kreutzer attacked the PDS as an "artificial project," not a real party, which had been created in 1987-88 by high-ranking members of the Soviet KGB. He described the recent history of the collapse of the Soviet empire, the most crucial event being the American Strategic Defense Initiative, authored by *EIR*'s founder Lyndon H. LaRouche, and the Soviet rejection of it. Then he developed the plan of the Soviet leadership in 1986 to "Finlandize" the Eastern European countries, in order to be able to squeeze them economically even more, after being economically strengthened by close economic partnership with Western Europe. Part of this plan was the propaganda of Mikhail Gorbachov for a "common European house"—under a Soviet roof.

Key people in the planned reorganization of East Germany, Kreutzer explained, and later in the creation of the PDS, were **Markus Wolf**, who headed the East German foreign intelligence service for 30 years, resigning in September 1986; **Gregor Gysi**, the first leader of the PDS and a top lawyer under the East German communist dictatorship (main-

ly responsible for "political cases"), and today a Member of Parliament in Bonn; and **Hans Modrow**, then head of the Dresden SED, who had known Gorbachov since they were roommates in Moscow during their student years. For a few months in 1989-90, Modrow was prime minister of the communist German Democratic Republic (G.D.R.), and is now a Member of Parliament in Bonn and honorary chairman of the PDS.

Kreutzer described KGB operations to create and/or infiltrate the leadership, not only of the PDS, but also of most of other organizations and parties in the G.D.R., especially in 1988-90.

## The historical problem put in focus

Kreutzer focussed on one of the unsolved problems posed since Germany's reunification: Why does the PDS receive so many votes in Germany's east? The population there lived under dictatorship since 1933, and has difficulty comprehending the idea of a *Rechtsstaat*, or constitutional state; the western politicians, on the other hand, with their "free-market" policies of wholesale privatization of industry and "downsizing" of the workforce, do not help this process. A tremendous flood of 4.5 million refugees left East Germany between 1945 and 1989, and these included many of those most energetic individuals, those who dared to take up the challenge of a starting life "from scratch" in the West.

On top of that, 340,000 people were imprisoned in the G.D.R. from 1945 until 1989, of which 90,000 lost their lives in prison. Kreutzer emphasized, that especially in later years, politically active and independently thinking minds were jailed in East Germany and then "ransomed" by West Germany for huge sums. Kreutzer himself was involved in many of these "deals" from the West German side, after his own release from prison and emigration to the West.

This became a major revenue source for the bankrupt G.D.R., and the communist leadership there also profitted politically, since it enabled them to get rid of all potential resistance. Because of this political "cleansing," it has been difficult to form an alternative elite in the eastern part of the country since reunification, an elite which could challenge the negative aspects of the policies coming from Bonn.

In these difficult times, "when a long historical epoch is coming to an end," Kreutzer said, it is "all the more urgent to have real politicians," which, tragically, are nowhere in sight. After 1945, Germany had great statesmen like Konrad Adenauer, who had "a compass in his head and was guided by this." Today's politicians, on the other hand, have "a radar-system in their head," which signals them where problems might occur, and which "problematic" areas are to be avoided. Those are *not* real politicians. "Only people who have a lot of scars, have fought unjust persecution, and come out of really tough battles alive: Only such people can become good politicians," Kreutzer said. He identified the Resistance movement against Nazism and communism in Germany as "the real foundations of our democracy."

With the upcoming economic and financial problems, the PDS most likely will win a lot more influence in Germany, he predicted. The PDS, as a communist party, is trained to intervene in exactly such times of crisis, and their only aim is to regain State power. Kreutzer referred to 1945, when the communist leadership returned from Moscow to East Germany. At that time, two booklets were the first to be published: the *Communist Manifesto* and Ivan Pavlov's physiological behaviorist tracts. When the young Kreutzer at that time asked a leading communist, why they had published precisely those two writings, he was answered that the *Communist Manifesto* defines the *aim* of the movement, and Pavlov defines the *method*; and regardless of whether a dog or a human being is being considered, the method of training is the same. The PDS nowadays has mastery of such methods, and all other parties are apparently falling for their manipulations, it seems.

### Biography of a freedom fighter

Kreutzer had experienced political persecution since 1933, when he and his family, all social democrats, were persecuted by the Nazis. Right after 1945, Kreutzer worked with the Americans in Thuringia, and fought against the Soviet-enforced "unification" of the communist and social democratic parties into the so-called Socialist Unity Party, which was would then rule the country as a dictatorship for 40 years.

He became involved in disputes with SED leader Erich Honecker over the historical role of the communists in destroying the Weimar Republic in the 1930s, and so helping Hitler to power. In the spring of 1949, he, his father, and his wife were arrested and each sentenced to 25 years of forced labor in prison, by a Russian-speaking court, where obviously no defense was possible, since they were not able to understand the Russian language, translators were not provided.

Kreutzer survived seven and a half years of arduous imprisonment in the concentration camp of Bautzen, were hundreds of prisoners died. They were kept with 400 people in relatively tiny rooms, without daylight, very little food, together with many other people, who already had been in prison under the Nazis for years prior to 1945! Many of his friends

died under these circumstances.

In 1956, he was released and went immediately to West Berlin, where he started to work with the leadership of the Social Democratic Party (SPD), which at that time still was a strictly anti-communist party. In 1966, he became head of the political department in the All-German Ministry (Gesamtdeutsches Ministerium) in Bonn, under the leadership of Minister Herbert Wehner, and from 1969-70 until 1980 he was head of the influential and politically highly sensitive Berlin Department of the ministry in West Berlin. In this period he became a political insider and got to know politicians such as Franz Josef Strauss, and Egon Bahr, the architect of Chancellor Willy Brandt's *Ostpolitik*, whom he describes as Brandt's "Mephisto." In this period, he was also president of the association of the people who had fled the G.D.R., a powerful association of 500,000 people at that time (the Bund der Mitteldeutschen).

In 1980, he and thousands of former political prisoners (Social Democrats) left the SPD because of their opposition to *Ostpolitik*, and the compromise with the communists. Kreutzer subsequently also left the government. He became the principal political adversary to the policy represented by Egon Bahr. Since that time, he has been quite active in the Kurt Schumacher Circle, and has been involved in all kinds of political initiatives, mainly in Berlin.

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