

NS News Bulletin

NSDAP/AO: PO Box 6414 Lincoln NE 68506 USA www.nsdapao.org

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Gerhard Lauck

The Education of an Evil Genius

Part 14

Chapter Six The Fall of the Iron Curtain

The impossible will be done immediately.

Miracles take a bit longer.

Slogan on a plague presented to me

Euphoria and Disillusionment

The euphoria in Eastern Europe over the collapse of communism soon receded. Instead of freedom, the people got corruption.

Instead of being poor people in a stable economy, they were poor people in an unstable economy.

Instead of rundown but at least affordable apartments, they had rundown but unaffordable apartments.

Instead of communist propaganda (which nobody believed anyway), their children were subjected to pornography and drugs.

Western "democracy" and "capitalism" failed so miserably that the neo-

Communist parties made a resurgence in many areas!

Instead of only facing imprisonment by the political police, dissidents now also faced beatings, sometimes even *murder*, at the hands of common criminals!

I recall one case in particular. A dissident, Rainer Sonntag, was murdered in cold blood in front of a whole group of witnesses. His murderers received a shorter prison sentence for this premeditated contract murder than many dissidents had received for anti-government literature! This happened AFTER the fall of Communism!

And these governments dare to call *us* "terrorists"!

The New Face of Tyranny

The fall of the Iron Curtain ushered in a new era alright.

Old problems were replaced with new problems.

In the east, the communist party official simply swapped one party book for another. The same official with the same mentality as before remained in power. However, the west no longer viewed him as an enemy to be combated. Quite the opposite, western governments wooed him.

In the west, the governments became more "lovey-dovey". Previously "safe countries" became "hostile countries". Europe's consolidation within the framework of the European Union only made things worse. It led to *less* freedom, not *more*.

Foreign governments eventually figured out they could gain more cooperation from the U.S. authorities, if they claimed we were *under investigation* on suspicion of involvement in something that was *criminal*. "Terrorism" became a popular choice even *before* 9/11.

This ominous shift is reflected in three stages.

Stage One

A foreign government asks the U.S. authorities for help to stop our aid to the dissident movement. The American officials politely refuse on the grounds of the First Amendment.

Stage Two

U.S. officials start to add: However, if there's something else in addition to that, then maybe we could help.

Stage Three

U.S. and foreign government officials collaborate to violate the U.S. Constitution and U.S. sovereignty!

Surge and Repression in Germany

Not surprisingly, the movement found very fertile ground in the east. It flourished like never before since 1945.

The "democratic" regime responded by outlawing ten previously legal organizations. This resulted in a shift back to underground activity. Think of the legal arm and the illegal arm of the movement as two different branches of the same military. Obviously, they work together very closely. Furthermore, if one of them is especially hard pressed, the other redoubles its efforts to relieve the pressure.

Naturally, the situation had changed radically since the 1970's. My role was different, too.

Our U.S. Base Expands

Our U.S. base's (aka *Auslandszentrale*) growth exploded in the first half of the 1990's. Several workstations were buzzing all day long. The building had already been rewired to handle more equipment. Nonetheless, we soon had more equipment hooked up than it could handle. Fortunately, this wasn't a problem, because we didn't need to use *everything* at the *same time*.

Often I would personally man half a dozen computers, while other staff worked at their own workstations. I would dart back and forth to keep multiple production lines running simultaneously.

During the next half-decade we made tremendous progress.

Two Official Languages

German had been our official language for internal documents for decades. But as our operations expanded, both domestically and overseas, we recruited more and more co-workers who didn't speak it. Therefore, we made English our official second language. Internal documents were henceforth bilingual: German and Eng-

lish.

While visiting our DNSB ally in Denmark, its director, Jonni, pointed to the two wall clocks in his office. One was for local time. The other was for "AO time", namely U.S. central time.

Our Publishing Empire

Our publishing included tabloid newspapers, newsletters, books and more. Each in several languages.

A non-profit's publication was the face it presented to the world. The more impressive the publication, the more successful the fund-raising. This led us to tabloid publishing.

Most people associated the *tabloid format* with the *daily newspapers*. Impressive, but expensive! - *But they were wrong!*

Furthermore, if many of the copies were being mailed overseas, the large-format – but still *light-weight* (!) – newsprint tabloid format was ideal.

We eventually offered our allies the option to mail their publication to the subscribers for them. This saved them a lot of time and effort. It was also relatively inexpensive, when all the factors were taken into consideration.

We had been publishing tabloids for two decades.

While overseas in the early 1990's, I met with an allied organization's director, Lars, in Sweden. He was obviously very impressed with the publications we had been producing for many years. Naturally, I was flattered. And I wanted to expand our operation! So I explained our methodology.

Surprised, he asked: What, you use an Atari? I think one of our volunteers has one of those! Do you think you could help us create our own tabloid? He was practically drooling at the mouth. I replied it was definitely worth checking out. He immediately phoned him and we rushed right over there.

Swedish became our third tabloid. Soon Hungarian became our fourth,

To make a long story short:

Within two years, our little "publishing empire" expanded from TWO to TEN tabloids!

Even professionals greatly overestimated our resources.

It took a lot of time, effort and aggravation to get to that point...Technical problems had to be solved...Financial limitations had to be overcome...Dragons had to be slain. (Okay, no dragons. I guess I got a little carried away there!)

Bear this in mind:

We were working with volunteers...in different countries...who spoke different

languages...with different degrees of computer skills (usually very limited, if not totally non-existent)...some of whom didn't even have a computer in the beginning or the money to buy one!

Nonetheless, my greatest achievements were in the underground. Volunteers with very limited resources and no professional training successfully defied every attempt by the regime to crush them. Failure didn't just mean lost profit here. It meant lost freedom. Most of the dissident leaders I knew spent five to ten years in prison as political prisoners.

After this achievement, a co-worker presented me with a small wooden plague. Beneath a drawing of a man sitting at a desk were the words:

The impossible will be done immediately. Miracles take a bit longer.

What were the key factors in this success?

First, perseverance, sheer will power and determination. (In other words, we were pigheaded!)

Second, optimal utilization of limited resources, both human and technical.

Third, simplicity and standardization of methodology.

We had made an impressive breakthrough. We were in the process of expanding our bridgehead. Unfortunately, the advance of the technology, combined with other factors, then led to the mothballing of our tabloid publishing operation.

This operation can be quickly resurrected if and when it becomes necessary!

Back in Europe

I also made several trips to Europe in the 1990's. Here are descriptions of two of them.

I Become a Film Star in the Eastern Block

This was the period when Communism was starting to unravel in the Eastern Block. The Communists still governed in "East Germany", but their control was clearly slipping.

This is really *Central* Germany. Fourteen million Germans were forcibly expelled from what is actually Eastern Germany. Three million died in the process. Most of Eastern Germany is occupied by Poland at present. Temporarily.

Three leading dissidents held a strategy meeting in a "safe" country in Western Europe. I was one of them. The other two were Thies Christophersen and Michael Kühnen.

My suggestion took them by surprise:

Look, I have already filmed my interview with the television documentary crew. What if I were to CONTINUE the interview INSIDE THE EASTERN BLOCK? How big is the risk?

I featured prominently in this documentary. It was later broadcast in several countries. Our supporters and activists were greatly impressed.

They reflected and agreed: Yes, things are very chaotic over there at the present. I think we can pull it off!

Naturally, the documentary crew loved the idea, too!

They filmed me walking side-by-side with other leading dissidents in obvious Eastern Block locations such as the East Berlin airport. Of course, I did not know how they would edit the material. When I later saw the finished documentary film, the background music provided me with a good laugh.

Additional interview questions were asked. One dealt with the report of the infiltration of the European Union parliament. This was obviously a very delicate issue. For both sides!

Michael Kühnen and I spent the whole night talking. We had always closely coordinated our activities in the "legal arm" and "illegal arm" respectively. Our conversation was one of the most memorable events of my life.

We were hiding out in a cold water flat of Ingo Hasselbach. He later became a famous "defector". His lies were used to support the false "terrorist" accusation against me. Among other things, he claimed I sent him a letter (!) ordering terrorist activity. Although his "PR agent" claimed he would testify against me, he was *not* called as a witness. The last I heard, he was supposedly living in the United States under the witness protection program.

At any rate, everything went perfectly according to plan. There were no casualties. The long-term benefit was quite substantial.







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