

'Sabre-rattling by Fascist revanchists' from Pravda (11 February 1951)

Caption: On 11 February 1951, the Soviet daily newspaper Pravda strongly condemns any plans for the remilitarisation of West Germany.

Source: Pravda. 11.02.1951. Moskva. "Fashistskie revanshisty briatsaiut oruzhiem".

Copyright: (c) Translation CVCE.EU by UNI.LU

All rights of reproduction, of public communication, of adaptation, of distribution or of dissemination via Internet, internal network or any other means are strictly reserved in all countries.

Consult the legal notice and the terms and conditions of use regarding this site.

URL:

http://www.cvce.eu/obj/sabre_rattling_by_fascist_revanchists_from_pravda_11_february_1951-en-90ce22eb-d451-4335-bc7c-515114a7a366.html



Last updated: 06/04/2018

Sabre-rattling by Fascist revanchists

From Pravda's own Correspondent

The remilitarisation of West Germany led by the imperialists in the USA and Great Britain is being accompanied by an upsurge in revanchism and the return of Hitlerism in the Bonn 'state'.

West Germany's book market has been flooded with literature analysing the 'mistakes of the past' and openly discussing the strategy for future aggression. No less than ten books have recently been penned by Gulerian, Galder and other Nazi strategists defeated by the Soviet Army. The authors of these books are unable to conceive of a future Germany without more wars of aggression.

There has been a whole host of newspaper articles written about the 'defective strategy' of the past. We have one such article entitled 'Reflections on Two Lost Wars'. The author of the article is von Roden, the former chief of the military-academic department of Hitler's air force, and it was published in the first number of the Munich newspaper *Das Ganze Deutschland* in 1951. Von Roden considers that the two defeats of imperialist Germany were caused by the fact that the Clausewitz and Schlieffen strategies, on which German military art was based, were limited to the European continent, and did not set 'intercontinental objectives'. The author asserts that it was Bismarck who opened up the 'gateway to the world' for the Germans.

'The national socialists brought into effect the struggle for world supremacy and the German strategists were unable to adapt their way of thinking to a wider context so quickly,' asserts von Roden with dismay. 'The predominantly land-based strategy encompassed only a limited part of Europe where it once enjoyed considerable success. The Germans had turned their backs on the more global dimension.'

The ardent revanchist severely criticises Hitlerite strategists for not creating a global network of strategic bases and a strong navy. 'Nobody in the general-staff military academies taught us that new laws were needed to complement the age-old laws governing the art of war,' von Roden laments. No less annoying for the author was the fact that strong allies could not be won over to Hitler's policies.

What conclusions did the downright Fascist reach?

'If we want to get back into the European arena,' writes von Roden, 'then we must urgently re-assess the entire German strategy. Clausewitz, Moltke and Schlieffen have already lost us two wars.' And throwing caution to the wind, he continues: 'More than ever before, Germany must address issues of high politics and war in as broad-minded a way as possible.'

Von Roden concludes by asserting that German military theory should be enhanced by the new imperialist theory of 'intercontinental neighbours' and that a modern 'Clausewitz with a global strategy' should be found. 'In that way,' points out the Hitlerite, 'Germans would probably have been better prepared to find global solutions than was the case in the period between 1871 and 1939.'

Such are the 'thoughts' of the bloody Fascist cut-throats, once again dreaming of world domination. It is not only individuals who are expressing such opinion, but a wide variety of circles and societies.

The bars of Munich, from which the brown-shirted, Hitlerite vermin once crawled, are becoming hang-outs for revanchists, racists and enemies of mankind once again, as are the bars of other towns and cities. The newspaper *Münchener Illustrierte* recently published an extensive series of pictures depicting the smart parties of Hitler's officers and generals in the city's bars and restaurants. The illustrated story was entitled 'Figures in World Politics'. The pictures show the bloodthirsty faces of Hitler's former officers and generals who, after the Anglo-American imperialists' announcement of their policy to remilitarise West Germany, as the publication puts it, 'once again feel themselves to be a factor in world politics.'

While criticising 'past mistakes', the increasingly brazen military clique is proclaiming the endurance of the Prussian strategy. The industrial newspaper *Industrie-Kurier* writes that 'the old Prussian tradition remains a

symbol and an goal of evolution.’ Hitler’s generals who were defeated on the eastern front, such as Guderian, are pompously known as leading world figures, and Galder as ‘the most illustrious chief of general staff since Schlieffen.’

It would be naïve to think that it is only Hitler’s ex-military that are obsessed with the concept of revenge; plans for new aggression are also being nurtured by West German industrial magnates, bursting onto the world markets for global sources of raw materials. Since Wall Street proposed an open union with the aim of unleashing a new world war, the German monopolists’ appetites have not grown by the day, but by the hour. Their press is full of articles painting false pictures of profitable deals in Africa, Asia and other parts of the world. The bigwigs of the West German military industrial machine have already secured the promise, as the facts will testify, that in exchange for German cannon-fodder they will receive their share of raw materials from the American monopolies and a place on the world market; all, of course, at the expense of the USA’s other European partners.

It is no accident that the talks on implementing the notorious ‘Schuman Plan’ have reached an impasse. Large-scale German industry is no longer satisfied with the role of a simple partner in the European industrial super cartel. They are demanding that the structure of the Ruhr industry be preserved, thus striving to crush France and other Member States.

It is not hard to work out from which hymn sheet the revanchist Adenauer and the social-traitor Schumacher are singing in demanding full equal rights for the murderous imperialist jackals in West Germany. The criminal anti-national policy of the Bonn faction is based on the concept of dividing up the world between German and American monopolies.

It is fitting that it should be Hitler’s generals and the industrialists who are explaining what the demands of Adenauer and Schumacher mean, since it is they who are really behind those demands.

In a recent article in *Die Welt*, a ‘West German military expert’ asserts that, for Germans, the notion of ‘equal rights’ means including German generals in the joint staff of an Atlantic army, the subordination of German troops to their own ‘national command’, the equipping of German forces with tactical aircraft, and arming them with the very same weapons as will be issued to the troops of other countries. Furthermore, the article goes on to insist that the Bonn president should be granted the right to ‘command the West German Army on his own initiative, where necessary.’

As well as equal military rights, the clique of Adenauer and Schumacher also demands the broad uncontrolled restoration of West Germany’s military-industrial might.

The Fascist revanchists are still getting carried away with their ‘chancellor’. They have named the insignificant Adenauer ‘a man of European repute’, ‘a man forever part of world and national history’. And how! They would be hard pressed to find a better man than Adenauer to do what they want. In terms of revanchist aspirations the only person comparable with him is the social-traitor Schumacher.

As for the American ‘friends’, they are pleased with both Adenauer and Schumacher, as well as with the Ruhr industrialists and Hitler’s generals.

In order to consolidate the imperialist US-German union, Washington approved the Fascist revanchists’ requests one after the other. After meeting Adenauer and Hitler’s generals, Eisenhower strongly requested that West Germany be granted full equal military rights. A few days ago, McCloy took it upon himself to have the most infamous war criminals released from prison, including the notorious Alfred Krupp and his directors.

Upon release from prison, the Ruhr cannon king announced that he would continue his activities in the tradition of the Krupp family, which meant that he would forge new weapons for the new imperialist war. His American friends returned steel and arms industry shares to him, and the Bonn government had already decided to grant Krupp a loan of 11 million deutschmarks.

In order to cover up his dirty deal with the Fascist revanchists, McCloy and his masters used the press to spread their monstrous lies to the effect that the majority of West Germans supported remilitarisation. However, Basil Davidson, recently back from West Germany, wrote in the British newspaper *Reynold's News* that 'some West Germans indeed support rearming, but who are these Germans?' He answers, 'It's the same old faces; the industrial bigwigs, the big bankers, those who financed Hitler and came out of the war with astronomical profits, and finally, the neo-Fascist riff-raff who no longer resemble humans and are hungry for another bloody war.'

The German people have nothing in common with the criminal mob of Fascist revanchists. They are striving for peace just like all other freedom-loving people, and are fighting for it with all their might. At the recent Essen Congress against the remilitarisation of West Germany, 1 700 people from all walks of life turned up. The delegates declared that Adenauer's mob did not represent the opinion of the German people and were acting against their interests. The Congress called upon all West German patriots to unite their efforts in the struggle for peace, and not to allow the German and Anglo-American imperialists to plunge Europe into a new catastrophe. The West German man in the street is vigilant, observing how the hornets' nest of revanchists conducts itself, and absolutely determined not to allow a rebirth of German militarism.

P. Naumov

Berlin, February