

FRANCE EXTRADITES TERRORISTS' LAWYER

West Germany Charges He Gave Baader Gang Improper Aid

By JONATHAN KANDELL

Special to The New York Times

PARIS, Nov. 16—France extradited a radical lawyer, Klaus Croissant, today to West Germany, where he is accused of improperly helping the Baader-Meinhof terrorists, who were his clients.

Mr. Croissant was taken from a prison in Paris about five and a half hours after a French court made a ruling that allowed the Government to issue an extradition decree. After the order was signed, two officials were sent to the prison to remove Mr. Croissant and accompany him to the airport.

The case has become a test of relations between the two countries because of growing anger among West Germans over what they feel is a lack of sympathy among intellectuals and in the French press for their terrorist problem.

The French press has tended to portray the recent upsurge of terrorism across the Rhine as evidence of a "sick society" in West Germany; at the same time, Bonn's efforts to curb terrorist activity have led to alarm in some circles here that a new right-wing German authoritarian sentiment is surfacing. The leftist community and the press here also reacted skeptically to Bonn's assertion that three German terrorists found dead in their maximum security prison cells in Stuttgart last month had committed suicide.

Mr. Croissant, who is a West German, has been strongly defended by French leftists against efforts by Bonn to secure his extradition. He fled to France earlier this year after German authorities issued a warrant for his arrest on charges that he had misused his position as a lawyer to aid Andreas Baader, the terrorist leader who is said to have committed suicide in the Stuttgart prison along with two of his accomplices.

Possible Five-Year Term

Mr. Croissant faces a prison sentence of six months to five years if convicted on these charges.

While in France, Mr. Croissant hid from the police but appeared in interviews on French state television. In these, he asserted that his West German terrorist clients, who also called themselves the Red Army Faction, were fighting "against a regime that has already entered into a disguised fascism." Mr. Croissant was finally arrested by the French police on Sept. 30, and has been in prison since then, waiting for the courts and the Government here to decide on his extradition.

Shoot-to-Kill Law Sought in Bonn

Special to The New York Times

BONN, Nov. 16—Government officials here are pressing for legislation that would expressly authorize the police to shoot to kill in clashes with terrorists.

The tactics of a West German commando unit during a raid in Mogadishu, Somalia, last month are being cited here as a precedent for domestic police units toughening up their method of dealing with extremists. In the Somalia raid, the elite Border Police Group Nine stormed a hijacked Lufthansa airliner at Mogadishu airport, freed all 86 hostages on board and killed three of the four terrorists who had commandeered the aircraft.

Schmidt Warns of 'McCarthyism'

Special to The New York Times

HAMBURG, West Germany, Nov. 16—Chancellor Helmut Schmidt warned today against persecution of dissenting intellectuals in connection with the wave of terrorism that has shaken West Germany, saying "German McCarthyites must be told clearly: not here and not with us."

"We will fight terrorism and will surely get rid of it," Mr. Schmidt declared, "but we are also set to fight against a wave of intolerance in which some are seeking to engulf us." He spoke at a five-day convention here of the ruling Social Democratic Party.

The New York Times

Published: November 17, 1977

Copyright © The New York Times