

# Terrorists' Lawyer Is Taken to West German Prison

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BONN, Nov. 17—Klaus Croissant, the radical lawyer extradited by France to his native West Germany early this morning, was taken later today to a maximum-security prison in Stuttgart where until recently several of his terrorist clients were held.

Unusual haste, secrecy and security precautions surrounded the 46-year-old lawyer's nighttime transfer. He was flown in a French military plane from Paris to Strasbourg, then was transferred to a helicopter for a short flight to a military airfield near the West German border. There he was put in another helicopter and taken to the fortress-like penitentiary in Stuttgart's northern suburb of Stammheim. Mr. Croissant lived in Stuttgart until he fled to France last summer.

It was in the Stammheim prison that the terrorist Andreas Baader and two of his colleagues died last month. The Government said they committed suicide, but Mr. Croissant and radicals here and abroad have charged that they were murdered by the Bonn Government.

Under the terms of the extradition as laid down yesterday by a Paris court called the Chamber of Accusations, the lawyer can be prosecuted in West Germany only on a charge of aiding and abetting criminals. The charge is based on the allegation that Mr. Croissant, while serving as counsel for the accused terrorists, helped operate an illegal information network that enabled his clients to keep in touch with one another in prison and with accomplices who were at large.

## Other Charges Rejected

The French court refused to consider other charges contained in extradition demands that West German authorities had presented in Paris in the summer and again after the lawyer's arrest by the French police on Sept. 30. The demands cited a warrant issued by a Stuttgart court on July 15 accusing Mr. Croissant of participation in a "criminal association."

The charge of association carries a maximum penalty of five years' imprisonment. A spokesman for the federal Justice Ministry here declined today to state what punishment Mr. Croissant might face if found guilty on the aiding and abetting charge.

Stuttgart court officials expressed the

hope that Mr. Croissant's trial could start in about three months.

Soon after the lawyer's arrival in the Stuttgart penitentiary, a criminal judge, Helmut Schiebel, upheld the lawyer's detention there. Later, the judge ordered close surveillance of Mr. Croissant on the ground that he was "potentially suicidal."

Before being removed from the Santé

Prison in Paris last night, Mr. Croissant wrote a letter to a French lawyer friend, Marie-France Schmidlin, stating he would never commit suicide or try to escape from a West German penitentiary. If she heard of his death in prison, Mr. Croissant said in his letter, she must not believe "the lies of the murderers."



Associated Press

Policemen trying to hold demonstrators behind barricade inside the Palais de Justice in Paris Wednesday after court cleared the way for extradition to West Germany of Klaus Croissant, the radical lawyer.