

Terrorists Slay Prosecutor Of German Anarchist Gang

Assassin On Cycle Uses Gun

KARLSRUHE, West Germany (AP) — A motorcycle gunman assassinated Federal Prosecutor Siegfried Buback this morning as he was being driven to work through downtown Karlsruhe, police said.

Buback, 57, has led the prosecution of alleged terrorists including leaders of the Baader-Meinhof gang of anarchists now on trial for bombings that killed four U.S. soldiers and the fatal shooting of a West German policeman in 1972.

A motorcycle ridden by two men pulled in front of Buback's car at an intersection near the city art museum, police said, and one of the men sprayed the car with a submachine gun.

Buback and his driver were killed instantly, and a bodyguard was wounded seriously, the Baden-Wuerttemberg state interior ministry said.

The assassins fled. Their motorcycle carried a license plate from Ludwigshafen, 30 miles down the Rhine River, a spokesman for the ministry reported.

Police closed roads out of the city and checked all cars.

Buback had warned repeatedly of the likelihood of new terrorists attacks since the beginning of the year.

He was West Germany's top prosecutor for almost three years and was responsible for all trials of alleged terrorists. It was he who drew up the 354-page document of charges before the opening in 1975 of the trial of Andreas Baader, Ulrike Meinhof, Gudrun Ensslin, Holger Meins and Jan-Carl Raspe. Baader, Raspe and Miss Ensslin are still on trial and have been on a hunger strike since the disclosure last month that their cells had been bugged on orders of the state justice ministry.

Miss Meinhof was found hanged in her cell last May and was ruled a suicide. Meins died in a hunger strike in November 1974.



Associated Press
SLAIN BY TERRORIST — West German Federal Prosecutor Siegfried Buback was assassinated by a motorcycle gunman in Karlsruhe, West Germany, police said Thursday. Buback had led the prosecution of alleged terrorists, including the leaders of the Baader-Meinhof gang.

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Terrorists Kill German Prosecutor

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Buback was the second high-ranking West German legal official to be assassinated in recent years.

The first was Judge Guenter von Drenkmann, president of the West Berlin Supreme Court, who was assassinated on his doorstep the day after Meins died. His killer was never caught.

Klaus Schmalz, vice president of West Germany's Federal Chamber of Attorneys, and his wife escaped with minor injuries on March 23 when an explosion damaged their apartment in Frankfurt. Schmalz said the attack might have been in retaliation for actions by his organization against lawyers with ultra-leftist connections.

Buback appeared Monday at a news conference to announce the issuance of warrants issued against two suspected terrorists extradited from Sweden to West Germany. They are Norbert Eric Kroecher, 26, and Manfred Richard Adomeit, 27, and the Swedish government said they had planned to kidnap a former Swedish immigration minister and offer to trade her for the Baader-Meinhof leaders.

Karlsruhe, a city of 285,000 on the northern edge of the Black Forest in southwest Germany, is the site of the Federal Constitutional Court, the equivalent of the U.S. Supreme Court. Two years ago a fire bomb exploded at the court building, causing considerable damage but no injuries. No one was ever arrested for the bombing.