

Gunman kills West German law official

BONN, Thursday. — The West German Chief Public Prosecutor, Mr Siegfried Buback, was killed in a machinegun attack in Karlsruhe today.

The Justice Ministry of the State of Baden-Wuerttemberg, in Stuttgart, said that Mr Buback's chauffeur was also shot dead.

The federal prosecutor's office in Karlsruhe said unidentified assailants on a motor cycle opened fire on Mr Buback's car with machineguns.

Mr Buback had been responsible for bringing West German urban guerrillas to justice, and had helped direct the hunt for leaders of the Baader-Meinhof extremist group in the early 1970s.

Justice Ministry officials said a bodyguard assigned to Mr Buback had been taken

to hospital seriously injured.

A West German Government spokesman said that Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, who is on holiday near Hamburg, was being kept closely informed of developments and of the hunt for the killers.

Mr Buback's most recent public appearance was at a news conference on Monday, when he announced that arrest warrants had been issued against two suspected guerillas whom Swedish authorities extradited to West Germany on Sunday.

Mr Buback issued the 354-page document of charges against Andreas Baader, Ulrike Meinhof, Gudrun Ensslin, Holger Meins and Jan-Carl Raspe before the trial against the alleged gang of urban guerillas began in 1975.

(AAP-Reuter)