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## NCLC Security Informational Brief

# New "Left" Pilot Network Activated in USA

*The following semi-public report is for the use of members and contacts. The subject of this report is the recently increased activity by a still-obscure "left" plot project being deployed by intelligence-community factions associated with the Carter cabal. It is our estimation that the personal impotence of the persons nominally heading this project will cause the organization itself to fail. However, as a pilot project, it reflects a policy commitment by Carter-linked intelligence-community factions; consequently, the project in question should be clinically observed as a harbinger of a broader effort being launched along the same general lines.*

Although there are several ultimately interconnected facets to the expulsion of intelligence operative **Phillip Agee** from England, one of the more immediate motives for that expulsion-action was the connection of Agee's operations to a current redeployment of nominally "Trotskyist" groups and grouplets in that country. One of the principal included facts contributing to the range of relevant Labour Party circles was Agee's connection to the role of such "Trotskyists" and others in an effort to de-stabilize the government of Prime Minister **James Callaghan** on behalf of the lower Manhattan financier interests.

The attempted de-stabilization of the Callaghan government broadly reflects a current, deep split within the Socialist International and related circles. The faction associated with such names as **Willy Brandt**, **Olof Palme**, **Leonard Woodcock**, **Francois Mitterrand**, **Marcus Raskin**, **Joseph Rauh**, **Lane Kirkland, Jr.**, et al. is allied with the lower Manhattan banks against the Colombo Resolution faction of Third World forces, and against the pro-industrial development factions of social-democrats, industrialists, and others in Western Europe and Japan. The lower Manhattan faction of the social-democracy is of course not only a political faction of the socialist and labor movements, but is part of the NATO intelligence community at the highest levels of controllership and operations planning and coordination. This lower Manhattan-aligned, or "Atlanticist" faction of the international social-democracy is the principal coordinator of the European and North American "Maoist" groups, the various other anarchist and anarchosyndicalist organizations and networks, the principal international "left" terrorist gangs, and of the Trotskyist networks coordinated by longstanding intelligence operatives **Ernest Mandel**, **Pierre Frank** et al.

The coordinated deployment of "Trotskyist" currents in the United Kingdom as part of the current destabilization

effort was a subsumed feature of a recent re-direction of the covert intelligence operations of **Mandel et al.** both in Western Europe and the USA, as well as other parts of the globe. Included features of that redeployment are attempted destabilization operations in Eastern Europe along the lines demanded by Rockefeller Trilateral Commission executive **Zbigniew Brzezinski**, for which the **Spring 1976 affair in Poland** and the **Biermann case** are notable examples of included current activities of the Mandel network.

Recently, a manifest decision has been made to bypass the **Socialist Workers Party** in favor of a "regroupment" of sundry "Trotskyists" outside the SWP with a ragtag of ex-CPers, sundry anarchoids, and so forth. To this purpose, an obscure "radical education project" based around the New York University Washington Square campus has been activated to become the nominal base of operations for such an effort. The activation has included feature of a recent more prominent role in that group by one **Murry Weiss**.

The current model for these operations is an ongoing project of the Mandel forces in France, attempting to fuse the followers of **A. Krivine** and **P. Frank** with Maoist and other elements around **Mitterrand's Socialist Party confederation** into a new left formation.

The choice of **Murry Weiss** for this current U.S. pilot project is not accidental. Weiss, operating through an intelligence courier of Mandel's (cover name "**Trent Hutter**"), coordinated the U.S. side of the operation which created the new Mandel international organization, the **Unified Secretariat of the Fourth International** during 1962-1963, hoodwinking then-SWP leader **Farrell Dobbs** through the cooperation of **James P. Cannon** et al. to effect a reconciliation between Mandel-Frank and the SWP. Weiss had publicly emphasized that his current activities are taken in "political solidarity" with Mandel et al.

It should be emphasized that Weiss is acting in full knowledge of the fact that **Ernest Mandel** and **Pierre Frank** have been NATO intelligence operatives since at least the early 1950s. Weiss has direct knowledge (as does SWP spokesman **Joseph Hansen**) that Mandel and Frank were operating as controllers for an intelligence network coordinated by top NATO intelligence executive **Richard Loewenthal** throughout the 1953-1963 period. Prior to his recent more active role in the NYU-based project, Weiss was a witting collaborator of **Marcus Raskin** intelligence operatives such as **Roberta Salper** around the mainland Puerto Rican Socialist Party operations of **Marcus Raskin's** network.

The pilot project based on the NYU campus is an offshoot

of a covert operation which Bertrand Russell planted in the U.S.A. during the middle 1960s under the coordination of **Ralph Schoenman**. This operation included ex-SWPer and close Weiss associated **Arthur Felberbaum** as Schoenman's aide at that time. It also included, in addition to Weiss himself, former SWP hatchet-man **Carl Feingold**, and ex-SWP Third Camper **Steve Zeluck**. After Bertrand Russell's death, the New York-based project failed as a result of Schoenman's failure to win access to Russell's estate from the United Kingdom-based, Mandel-linked **Institute for Workers Control**, the latter one of Russell's principal covert intelligence creations of late life. Felberbaum drifted into a close association with longstanding Fabian operative, **Professor Bertell Ollman** of New York University, digging in furtively under various "left" academic covers and using those covers as a reference-point for keeping up links to various "left" odds-and-ends, including Weiss, Feingold and others. During recent months that NYU project was upgraded through the more active role of Weiss into an assembly-point of reference for the current pilot project.

### PROFILE OF THE PROJECT

The pilot project headed by Weiss et al. has the overall organizational profile of a **Karl Korsch network**. It professes to aim at the future formation of some broad socialist regroupment organization, and the spinning-off of such an organization as a by-product of the project is undoubtedly one of the Korsch-type options being explored. The essential character of the network is a nest of overlapping circles, each circle assembled on some formal or semi-formal pretext. The various circles partly overlap with some of the others; all are coordinated by travellers acting as brokers for coordinated sub-projects, and as retailers of gossip, to the effect of giving the overall network of circles the net effective direction currently desired by the semi-visible and covert controllers operating from behind the scenes. To the extent that any explicit policy direction is given to this Korsch-modelled network, that is supplied through the cover of ad hoc "editorial boards" and similar informal or semi-formal entities built as "coordinating committees" around various of the network's sub-projects.

The principal "left-radical" background context for the overall Mandel redeployment is the current developments in China. The waning of a credible Peking center for the ideological and related postures of the Maoist groups and Maoist-tinged anarchist groupings has created a potential for a re-polarization of Maoist and related anarchoid currents, a new version of the "New Left" tactic. The "Trotskyist" circles linked to Mandel et al. are being used as one nucleus for this attempted re-polarization.

Weiss's role in the cited project is doubtless recommended to appropriate controlling circles by the following background considerations: (1) Weiss has an established special connection to Mandel et al.; (2) Weiss's direction of the SWP's "regroupment" project of the 1957-1961 period, and the use of the "Weiss model" by **Jack Barnes et al.**, for the SWP's mid-1960s "regroupment" with the Ford Foundation and DHEW "New Left" "community control" projects and controlled anti-war movement, are among the considerations recommending Weiss for this new "regroupment" tactic; (3) Weiss's personal psychological profile, including his willingness to act knowledgeably under the coordination of intelligence agents in such affairs as "Regroupment," **Fourth International "Re-unification,"** and the mainland PSP operations of **Marcus Raskin et al.**, identifies him as suitably corrupt and labile for the titular coordination of the current cited U.S. pilot project.

The function of the ex-Trotskyist phrase-choppers in this pilot project is to develop the semblance of a rationalization for the thesis that the actually Strasserite-fascist ideology of the network is somehow only a "revisionist" outgrowth of the "Marxist-Leninist" socialist currents, a socialist adaptation of such "legitimacy" to the "new reality" of a "left" committed to "community control" and "countercultural" fetishes. The small core of ex-Trotskyist phrase-choppers, situationally controlled by their neurotic need to "build an important current" from among disparate Maoist and others, will readily concoct what is for them plausible explanations of the "principled socialist" character of this adaption to left-fascist ideology.

### MURRAY WEISS

Weiss's infantile profile is visible on first encounter by a grossly-manifest compulsive-eating syndrome, which persists despite the fact that Weiss has a medical history of both major heart illness and serious stroke. When this is compared with the information that Weiss has become an accredited, practising lay psychologist, a perception of the infantile self-destructive compulsions operating is indubitably evoked.

Prior to Weiss's major stroke during the Winter of 1961, he had risen from his recruitment as a youth to the Trotskyist currents of the 1930s, to become, by 1953, one of SWP founder **James P. Cannon's** two contending heirs for the SWP leadership.

A childhood streptococcus infection had gravely impaired his heart, and, together with family economic circumstances during the Great Depression, had aborted his formal education below the secondary school level. Nonetheless, the high standard of multi-lingual literacy of his father's household had exposed young Weiss to the goal of a high standard of literacy as a criterion or self-esteem, and his parental household's associated disposition for pitiful-type Talmudic and social-democratic polemical exchanges had favored Weiss's compensation for poor education by a developed facility as a debater. His physical impairment, under the hazardous conditions of a childhood and adolescent New York ghetto, had sharpened his self-development as a "manipulator."

Overall, Murry Weiss brought to the Trotskyist organization a fiercely competitive personal style developed principally on the basis of a combination of deep-rooted neurotic infantilism and the educational influences of parental household life.

Although he was never able to comprehend Marxian economic-theoretical or methodological conceptions, he developed a special sort of literacy, by applying his infantile fantasy life's preference for romantic fiction to readings in the history of the socialist movement. He gained a certain sort of "theoretical authority" in the SWP as a result of his fantasy-life around texts such as **Trotsky's History of the Russian Revolution**. To the extent that such political readings and related reflections bore upon his immediate concern for a feral sort of competitiveness, Weiss was able to adduce some sharpening of his abilities as a political tactician from those studies.

His talent and status as an SWP leader depended principally upon his oratorical facilities and an ability to mask his deeply-rooted hostilities with a manipulative show of gregariousness in interpersonal contacts. In interpersonal relations, he was essentially characterized by his zeal for "motivating" people, along lines made famous by **Tom Sawyer** and the whitewashing of the household fence. The

stroke of the Winter of 1961 most significantly affected his verbal capacities, depriving Weiss of the most essential tools of his craft.

The way in which Weiss reacted to the effects of the strike was determined largely by an event of Autumn 1954.

The decline of SWP trade-union work over the preceding, post-1948 period, and the limited relative success of an SWP public fight against McCarthyism, had grouped around Weiss a collection of politically-ignorant, but glib youth manifesting ill-disguised contempt for the "old fogies" of the trade-union faction. This internal conflict within the SWP was exacerbated by the splitting-away of the UAW-linked faction of Mandel-linked **Bert Cochran**. Following the splitting of the Cochran faction, the relevant remaining SWP "old fogies" had reacted under the spokesmanship of one **Morris Stein** to denounce the "Weiss clique" and force Weiss to humiliate himself before the party as a whole.

Lacking any conceptual links to Marx's economic-theoretical strategic conceptions and methodology, the demoralized Weiss reacted to that humiliating episode by squatting miserably in the SWP leadership, nourishing his grudges behind a managed protective coloration of amiability. The aggravated ebbing of SWP membership over the 1954-1958 period worsened Weiss's mental state, situating him within the general demoralization of a leadership clinging to the party for want of any credible opportunity to pick up the shards of their shattered political lives elsewhere.

About 1956, Weiss reacted to the Krushchev Revelations with probing orientation toward both the "Third Camp" and disaffected CPUSA peripheries.

During that period, Weiss typified one of three principal currents within the SWP leadership, all developed in response to the Khrushchev address at the 20th Congress, Hungary, and the Peking-Moscow factional drift.

The politically simplistic stata of ex-trade-union officials, led and typified by Farrell Dobbs, reacted to the CPSU 20th Congress with characteristic Stalinophobia. An opposite current erupted around the SWP's traditional "ultra-left" currents — Swaback, Marcy, et al., by becoming Maoists from about 1957, accelerating that development in the wake of the Cuban Revolution.

The third principal current was led by Weiss; a policy of maneuvering between the Moscow-and Peking-oriented currents of the Communist periphery and also the "left" social-democracy. This caused Weiss to converge in direction upon the outlook of Gabriel Kolko et al., the architects of the "New Left" pilot projects spun out of ADA during the early-through-middle 1950s.

The later convergence of Bertell Ollman (an early 1950s dupe of Kolko et al.) and Weiss was the rather inevitable fulfilment of tendencies Weiss manifest in his "Regroupment" policy of the late 1950s. This is reinforced by the fact that key persons associated with sponsorship of the new NYU campus-centered pilot project are relics from the CP periphery side of the 1958-1959 Regroupment project.

Weiss's Regroupment project represented his movement toward conscious reconciliation with Mandel et al. This is of special interest, since it was the same Weiss who led the split between the SWP and Mandel during the 1952-1954 period! After a gradual recovery from the worst effects of his strike, during late 1961 and 1962 Weiss negotiated directly through Trent Hutter and others to effect the establishment of the Unified Secretariat. Once that project was completed, at the 1963 SWP convention, Weiss resigned from the SWP leadership — and de facto from the SWP as well — making a swan-

song oration of solidarity with the Mandel American perspectives of 1952-1954.

Apart from personal contacts, Weiss remained out of political life from 1963 through the formation of Ralph Schoenman's Bertrand Russell operation in New York City. His efforts were concentrated on an adult education program offered by the Brooklyn division of New York City University, and by his psychoanalysis. The outcome of the two activities, plus some further formal education, was Weiss's present career as a lay consulting psychologist. It is politically relevant that Weiss's psychological criteria focus upon **the individual's heteronomic psychological needs**, the most banal and morally reactionary current among the principal psychologist factions.

### THE WEISS CIRCLE

Politically, the Weiss circle is predominantly characterized by swamp-flavored intellectual mediocrity. Two cases, **Myra Weiss** and **Arthur Felberbaum**, typify the leading individuals under Weiss's coordination.

Myra Weiss, Murry's wife of over thirty years, compensates for lack of intellectual development by hard-working aggressiveness, and is otherwise known for longstanding special interest in feminism. Her impassioned anti-intellectuality takes the form of presuming that specialized knowledge beyond her at-a-glance comprehension must have therefore been slyly over-complicated to the intended effect of "putting her down" intellectually. For every conception she professes to understand, the understanding assumes the form of whatever simple-minded argument from self-evident fact of observation represents for her a plausible gloss on that subject-matter. Her inclination in politics is for "gut-reaction" policies. Whatever her potential development might have been in an intellectual climate of higher standards, the cruel facts are what they are.

Arthur Felberbaum has for years operated around the fringes of nominally socialist politics with a fascination for petty gossip and irrelevant detail, and a pervasive practice of intimating that somewhere along the line he was cheated of the leading socialist-figure position he deserved. Like Weiss, Felberbaum's psychoanalysis was a manifest failure, conducted under a consulting psychologist (unknown to us by name) whose work we are nonetheless qualified to judge as pervasively incompetent in respect of methods and criteria. Felberbaum's psychoanalysis modified his outward personal posture to the effect of cloaking his neurotic infantilism in a "humble little me" pose and an unhinged fidelity to the cause of his neurotic, individual, heteronomic psychological "needs."

The notable feature of the Weisses, Felberbaum, et al. is not that they are ignorant — many people are unfortunately ignorant through no special fault of their own; the point is that they are pompous ignoramuses, finding in coffee-klatsh gossip and crankism prejudices a basis for presuming themselves some sort of sectarian elite.

The direct Fabian-Russell-Korsch-Raskin-Mandel determining links of this collection is complemented by an overlap with the Loewenthal-linked political intelligence networks around **Monthly Review** magazine.

The most credible intellectual representative from that milieu is **Annette Rubinstein**, author of **From Shakespeare To Shaw** (respectable for its sympathetic treatment of Shelley), and an occasionally close collaborator of Murry Weiss since the 1958-1959 Regroupment project. The weak

side of Annette Rubinstein intellectually is her "comsymp" proletkult sympathies, her inclination for the beggars-opera mythical version of "Jeffersonian Democracy" popularized by the CPUSA of the 1936-48 period. During the 1968 NY teachers' strike, Annette Rubinstein was associated with Paul M. Sweezy et al. in behalf of the Ford Foundation and DHEW, and was associated with the published thesis (**Monthly Review**) that socialists must ally with big finance-capital against medium-to-small capital and the labor movement in behalf of community control reforms. Of some obvious intellectual potential, Annette Rubinstein today represents one of the more notable of the surviving "burned-out liberals" demoralized by the decline of the Communist Party USA. Her "socialism" is conceptually approximately on the level of the "Weavers" folk-song group's populist romantic drivelings.

#### **THE PROJECT'S FUNCTION**

The function toward which the Weiss-linked pilot project is directed is the establishment of a "left border guard" for the neo-Fabian side of the Carter cabal. With the crisis of the Maoist organizations, this pilot project typifies the intended replacement for the Maoists in attempted Rockefeller-

Rothschild "left-covered" political containment operations against the U.S. Labor Party's influence on campuses.

Although these pathetic creatures would be wholly ineffective by themselves, they have potential uses of the sort exemplified in the Washington Post's pre-election slander campaign against the Labor Party. There, a known intelligence operative writing for the Post proposed that the derelictpathetic Socialist Workers Party be puffed and aided by the press and other agencies to the specific purpose of diversionary containment directed against the Labor Party. Pathetic, recycled ex-politicals of the Weiss-project type would be of no significance except as the press, campus officials and others used the token presence of such pilot-project circles as a pawn in containment actions against the Labor Party.

In Western Europe, where the Mandel forces link into CounterSpy networks and the Mitterrand-Palme-Brandt faction of the social-democracy, the opposite number to the Weiss-linked pilot project are currently being deployed toward the objective of destabilization operations in behalf of lower Manhattan's combined operations against Western and Eastern Europe and the developing sector's Colombo resolution.