

Guillaume Guenther
BRANDT, Willy
SOCY. DEM. Germany:
Der Spiegel)
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(orig under CIA)

"DER SPIEGEL" ON GUILLAUME SPY CASE

[Report: "Guillaume Case: 'A Perfect Job -- Unfortunately'"; Hamburg, Der Spiegel, German, No. 18, 29 April 1974, pp 19-31]

After the biggest espionage affair in West German history, the Social Democrats are once again preparing to lose voters. Never before had the East managed to place one of its agents at the very center of West German government, right at the chancellor's elbow. Now the comrades are afraid that the old prejudice -- to the effect that the SPD [Social Democratic Party of Germany] is unreliable and unsuited for the conduct of the business of government -- might be revised.

A week before the first official permanent mission of the GDR was to be opened in Bonn, the unofficial permanent representative of the GDR to the federal chancellor had to give up his job.

Until his arrest last Wednesday, Guenter Guillaume, 47, the chancellor's personal assistant for party matters, sat ensconced in Willy Brandt's outer office on the first floor of Schaumburg Palace in Bonn; he was also a captain in the NVA [National People's Army] of the GDR and a staff member of the MfS [Ministry of State Security] in East Berlin -- a man who knew everything.

Guided by the HVA [Main Administration for Intelligence] of the MfS, "West German Parties" department, "SPD" section, Guillaume was assigned to spy on the biggest party in the West German government, its chairman Willy Brandt, and the very center of government in the Office of the Federal Chancellor. He did his job comprehensively and conscientiously and he had been doing it as a matter of fact since 1970.

This rather square-appearing SPD and SED [Socialist Unity Party of Germany] comrade -- cleared for "Top Secret" after three security checks by the competent West German government agencies -- knew almost all Bonn government secrets with the exception of some special military matters: