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In Gefahr Groesster Not Bringt Der Mittelweg Den Tod

**(In Extreme Blows of Fate The
Just Milieu Brings Death)
(WEST GERMAN-B&W)**

Locarno, Aug. 19.

Filmverlag Der Autoren release of RK-Film Munchen production. Features entire cast. Directed and written by Alexander Kluge, Edgar Reitz. Camera (black and white), Reitz, Alfred Hurmer, Gunther Hormann; editor, Beate Mainka-Jellinghaus. Reviewed at Locarno Film Fest, Aug. 9, '75. Running time, 90 MINS.

Girl Dagmar Boddrich
Spy Jutta Winkelmann
Man Norbert Kentrup
Inspector Alfred Edel

Alexander Kluge and Edgar Reitz head the so-called Munich Film Group and are intellectually, politically and socially inclined in their pix. This one has a saving wit as it works little criss-crossed tales into footage shot on real events utilized as background or as part of the tales.

Perhaps some of the humor and point are lost with those not up on German happenings, but it does send up spy stories and makes a point about a woman who preys on men by lifting their wallets and cars. She does not consider herself a prostitute, but as someone trying to cope with those using her.

There is also a Marxist spy and his girl. She gives longwinded chronicles to her contact who finally fires her. There is a dreary Miss Germany pageant worked in well for its potshots at forced gaiety as well as some wry comments on spies, police violence and other current topics.

More for school, museum and archive showings, plus fests or for prefacing debates, pic is limited for commercial chances. However, Kluge and Reitz do create some incisive moments in their insights into social problems that have fused better in some of their previous pix, especially Kluge's own "Yesterday's Girl" and "Work of a Part-time Slave." —Mosk

Aug. 27, '75