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Red Brigades probe confirms Haig link to P-2

by Umberto Pascali in Wiesbaden

Political observers in Rome are noting the great similarity between the terrorist destabilization operation launched in Italy in December and what occurred just four years ago when Red Brigades terrorists kidnapped and murdered former Christian Democratic Prime Minister Aldo Moro.

The Red Brigades kidnapped U.S. General James Lee Dozier, the highest-ranking American officer in Italy, on Dec. 17 in Verona. Rumors began to circulate that Dozier was kidnapped in the context of a fight going on inside NATO secret services, and that Libyan dictator Muammar Qadaffi was directly involved in the operation. The kidnapping was only the first step in the current terrorist offensive. Four top Red Brigades terrorists escaped from the prison of Rovigo, near Verona. On Jan. 6, terrorists attempted to murder Nicola Simone, the deputy head of police in Rome. Simone had two days earlier arrested two terrorists who were attempting to kidnap Cesare Romiti, the executive manager of Fiat.

These operations were to be only the beginning of a major offensive to plunge Italy once more into political chaos and confusion, to culminate in mass escapes of jailed terrorists and a bombing of the Christian Democratic Party's (DC) national headquarters in Rome on Jan. 21, the day on which the national council of the DC was to take place there.

This bombing was prevented only by a dramatic police round-up at three Red Brigades hideouts in Rome Jan. 9, which included the capture of Giovanni Senzani, a terrorist ideologue in hiding since the police uncovered his masterminding of the kidnapping of Judge Giovanni d'Urso, who was conducting investigations of the Red

Brigades last year. Nine other terrorists were captured at the same time, and police found weapons, ammunition, archives, and ideological material stating that the Red Brigades were about to target "objectives of primary importance." Weapons seized included bazookas, anti-aircraft rockets, and a cannon.

The bombing of the DC office would have had the effect of precipitating political chaos in Italy, at a time when Italian Socialist Party (PSI) secretary Bettino Craxi, dubbed in the Italian press "the new Mussolini," was launching a political offensive to collapse the government of Italian Republican Party Secretary Giovanni Spadolini.

But there is a crucial difference between the present situation and the 1978 events: this time Italian national forces and the leadership of the Vatican are counterattacking. It was this reaction that caused the arrest of Senzani, and effectively halted the Roman arm of the operation. And an unprecedented campaign has been launched in the Italian press giving widespread public exposure to who the controllers of international terrorism really are. As *EIR* revealed as early as 1978, at the time of the Moro kidnapping, these include a very strange ménage à trois: the Mossad, one of Israel's intelligence services; Qadaffi's Libya; and the Italian Socialist Party (PSI) of Bettino Craxi.

Craxi foresees the terror escalation

Both the 1978 terror operation and the current one have the same targets. Four years ago, Moro was moving to create a government of national unity based on an alliance between the DC and the Italian Commu-

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nist Party (PCI) of Enrico Berlinguer, the two most important political forces in Italy. This would have guaranteed the stabilization of the nation and pushed forward the process of "de-Marxistization" of the PCI, a process favored by the faction headed by Secretary Berlinguer, whose base is made up of moderate unionists and regional industrialists.

The murder of Moro increased the power of the socalled Third Force in Italy, the PSI. Despite the minor size of the PSI electorate (approximately 10 percent) and the role Craxi played in the Moro kidnapping, including direct public support for the creators of the Red Brigades, Antonio Negri and Franco Piperno (EIR, Oct. 6, 1981), Craxi demanded the post of Prime Minister.

Craxi could never have done this without the support of the Haig-Kissinger forces and the Propaganda-2 Freemasonic lodge. What halted Craxi's "unstoppable" grab for power was the explosion of the P-2 scandal in Italy in May. P-2 was formed in the wake of World War II as an operation to destroy the Italian republic. Since then, the fascist lodge has been behind every major coup attempt in Italy and involved in major drug-running, gun-running, and "left" and "right" terrorist operations. P-2 was connected, through the Inter-Alpha banking group and former Ambassador Richard Gardner, to the Carter administration, and was deployed by the same Club of Rome forces that deploy Henry Kissinger and Alexander Haig. Craxi was involved directly, having personally met frequently with P-2 Grand Master Licio Gelli, a torturer for Mussolini's Fascist regime, to discuss political projects.

Following the fall of the Christian-Democratic-led Forlani government as a direct result of Craxi's refusal to pull out of the government PSI members implicated in the P-2 scandal, Spadolini formed a government which, with support from the Vatican, re-launched a policy of internal stabilization and alliance with West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

The Red Brigades threatened several times to launch new offensives against the government, but until the recent period they never materialized. This was due primarily to the partial clearing out of the P-2 connected officials in the secret services. Spadolini then launched a dialogue with the labor unions, and sought rapprochement between the DC and the PCI. Immediately after the declaration of martial law in Poland, Berlinguer dramatically accelerated the development of the PCI as a nationalist force by stating that the party could no longer look to the Soviet model. DC Secretary Flaminio Piccoli broke his preferential ties to Craxi and announced that given the position of the PCI, a new historical phase could be opened for Italy, the beginning of the "moral reunification of the Italian people."

It was in this new political atmosphere that Craxi launched his attacks against the Spadolini government, demanding early elections. Craxi was convinced that he must move immediately, because the entire machine that he had built up over the last four years was in danger of collapsing.

In a televised press conference in December, Craxi declared that the Spadolini government must go. Then, in threatening tones, he stated that he was surprised at the unexpected inactivity of the Red Brigades, and stressed that it was known that the Brigades act on the basis of a "political plan."

Counterattack

The wave of arrests and the unprecedented press campaign are building widespread support for taking apart the terrorist apparatus. Revelations about the involvement of U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig are very important in this connection.

La Repubblica, Europeo, and other major press have revealed that the Italian military secret service, the SISMI, has sent huge sums of money through a Swiss bank to Prof. Michael Ledeen, who was Haig's official Special Adviser on Italian Affairs for several months last summer. The press charged that Ledeen was to use the funds, in an operation supported by Haig, to put Craxi into the Prime Minister's post.

The go-between for these funds was Francesco Pazienza, the right-hand man of P-2's Licio Gelli. Pazienza, a close friend of Haig, is a cousin of General Santovito, a P-2 member who, until the scandal broke, headed the SISMI. Santovito, also a friend of Haig, is currently being investigated for his connections to terrorist operations.

The press is again publishing the already-documented links between the present Defense Minister of Italy, Lelio Lagorio, another Haig associate, with just-captured Red Brigades ideologue Giovanni Senzani. Lagorio, a leading figure in Italy's B'nai B'rith, had been associated with Senzani since the latter was a Socialist leader in Tuscany, where he collaborated on Lagorio's magazine, Città e Regione...

Panorama magazine published Jan. 11 the confessions of the terrorist Alfredo Buonavita, which documents the involvement of Israeli intelligence with events in Italy. "In 1973 emissaries of the Israeli secret services succeeded in getting in touch with the Red Brigades in Milan," Buonavita stated. "They proposed supplying weapons, ammunition, military training and cover for terrorists in some state apparatus. In exchange, [the Israelis] requested increased activity to destabilize the Italian situation." The emissaries explained that "The Americans were lukewarm [in relation to] Israel. They supported Italy more as their instrument to keep their position in the Mediterranean. The Israelis wanted to change this situation by contributing to the destabilization of our country." Buonavita said, "a member of the PSI," was the Israeli-Red Brigades link.