

## Report from Rome by Antonio Gaspari

### The Green menace

*Concluding a two-part report on the upcoming Italian nuclear referendum, and the violent forces behind it.*

On Nov. 8-9, 45 million Italians will go to the polls to vote on five referenda demanded by the Radical Party: They will have to write "yes" or "no" on five different issues, to be represented by a card of different colors: "green" for the civilian responsibility of judges, "blue" for the investigative commission, "grey" for the location of nuclear power plants, "yellow" for allocations to regional governments which host nuclear power plants, and "orange" for the participation of ENEL, the state electricity company, in nuclear energy activities abroad.

The referendum is "abrogative," which means that with their "yes" or "no" the voters are to cancel or confirm the five cited bills. The attention of the press, however, is concentrated on the nuclear power issue, since it was to abolish nuclear power in Italy and prevent the construction of new nuclear plants, that the Radical Party gathered 1 million signatures to have the referendum, and the Green Party ran for the first time in the last national elections in June.

Since Italy has only one functioning nuclear plant, in Caorso (near Turin), the main purpose of the referendum is to stop the so-called National Energy Plan (Piano Energetico Nazionale, PEN) which foresees building 10 more nuclear plants. The Radical Party, the Communist Party, and the Green Party propose to accomplish this by cutting funds to regional governments which accept construction of such plants.

Italy does have a nuclear energy capability, which is mostly aimed at

exports abroad, for example to Egypt and Latin America. The Greens and the Radicals also aim at cutting all nuclear power exports, with a vote on whether the state electricity company ENEL should participate in nuclear power activities abroad.

The Green Party deputies are pressing the Italian Communist Party to join their campaign for the "total abolition" of nuclear power, instead of choosing a more diplomatic "gradual renunciation," due to the stiff opposition to the Green line from industrial workers and farmers, who are tending to leave the Communist Party over its new "green" and anti-industrial look.

We will now take a look at the insane and violent ideology which has drawn the "peace-loving" Greenies into the terrorist orbit.

The setting afire of a 70 ton cooling motor on its way to the Montalto di Castro nuclear plant, in August, was only the latest in a series of violent incidents and threats coming from circles that previously spawned terrorist groups.

Prospero Gallinari, Bruno Seghetti, and Francesco LoBianco, "unreconstructed" members of the Red Brigades, already in spring 1986 had put out a recruitment document aimed at the anti-nuclear groups.

In his 1984 and 1985 reports on the intelligence services, ex-Prime Minister Bettino Craxi exposed the flanking moves of the "armed party" conducted by pacifist and anti-nuclear organizations. "Worker Autonomy," exposed by the courts in the late 1970s as the above-ground arm of the mur-

derous Red Brigades, has resumed its activities in conjunction with anti-nuclear demonstrations.

The new parliamentarians elected in June on the Green slates are all experts in "protest demonstrations." Many of them come out of the ranks of the dissolved Maoist group, Continuing Struggle, an organization noted for having given their start to many individuals who later joined the "armed struggle."

Take the case of Hon. Sergio Andreis. A conscientious objector, he did 15 months in military prison in Gaeta, lived four years in a commune in Berlin, and played a role in the publication of a military map of all the nuclear and non-nuclear NATO bases in Italy. While under indictment in the Lombardy region for having distributed to the press the secret list of risk industries on the region's territory, he served as a consultant to Unesco and the World Council of Churches.

Another example is Michele Boato, already a "Continuing Struggle" member in 1968, with a long past of demonstrations attempting to blockade various factories. Considered too much of a "loose cannon on deck" and too "workerist," he left Continuing Struggle in 1972 to dedicate himself to organizing the Green slate.

The last question which many political analysts are trying to answer is, "But who finances the Greens?" In the United States a recent investigation showed that the biggest financiers of the ecologist organizations are the multinational oil companies. In Italy, ENI (the national oil company) gave the World Wildlife Fund 400 million liras at the last ecologist convention in Assisi, and food cartel tycoon Raul Gardini, one of the world's wealthiest men, stated on national TV that he had voted for the Green Party. Gardini is now campaigning to convert agricultural grain production to ethanol.