

Gardner, Carter Advisors Plot To Topple Italian Gov't

ITALY

A prominent Milan industrialist known to the U.S. and European Labor Parties has informed the U.S. Labor Party that the U.S. Embassy in Rome had threatened him that unless he ceased all contacts with the USLP, the United States would cancel all orders with his company. This open threat of economic warfare, exactly like the Cold War tactics used against Italian industry in the 1950s, came one day after the Labor Party had testified in Washington before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee against Richard Gardner's confirmation as U.S. Ambassador to Italy.

At the hearings, Gardner emphasized that the major issue for Italy is the country's economic bankruptcy and the ability of the government to cut wages and take severe energy conservation measures to pay the debts. The Senate hearings made it clear that Gardner had been tapped for — and accepted — his new role as the lower Manhattan bankers overseer to guarantee debt collection. "Italy's other problem is financial," Gardner remarked, "and I hope the IMF (International Monetary Fund) can take care of the situation."

Gardner, a member of David Rockefeller's Trilateral Commission and co-author of several Trilateral reports on "reorganizing" the world under the rule of the New York banks, has been entrusted with overthrowing the pro-industrial government of Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti and establishing the U.S. Embassy as the de facto seat of the Italian government. Italy has been singled out because of the leading role of the Andreotti government in European and Third World efforts to bring about a new world monetary system and thus to destroy the Rockefellers' dollar empire.

To carry out his assignment, Gardner will make use of massive funding and mobilization of agent networks within the Italian political spectrum — the method first used by the CIA in Italy itself in 1947-48 and raised to bloody perfection with the coup d'état against Chile's Allende government in 1973.

Fittingly, Senator Jacob Javits, himself a lifetime Rockefeller retainer, likened Gardner during yesterday's hearings to "the last great American Ambassador to Italy, Mr. Zellerbach" — the postwar envoy who destroyed the governmental alliance between the Communist-organized labor movement and development-oriented industrialists which had emerged from

the anti-fascist Resistance struggle of World War II.

Now, as two separate sources from the Rockefeller-created Center for Strategic International Studies at Georgetown University leaked to a friendly Washington reporter this week, the U.S. scenario calls for South American "ungovernability" to bring down the Andreotti government by late spring.

Walter Laqueur, Research Director of CSIS, and Michael Ludine, a CSIS resident expert who recently returned from a 10-year stint in Italy, volunteered that "Italy is a new Argentina, Italy is ungovernable." They cited the current truckers' strike and parliamentary debate of the Lockheed scandals as the kind of "secondary" issue which could fatally destabilize the Andreotti government. "By late spring," both predicted, "the government may fall."

Preparatory to Gardner's confirmation, the lower Manhattan banks have deployed their top trade-union agents to Italy with the object of undermining the enormous Italian Communist Party (PCI), whose support is well known to be the mainstay of Andreotti's minority government. Carter's leading slave-labor advisor Eli Ginzberg, identified in the Italian press as a Gardner intimate, will return to Italy in March for his second trip in two months. Meanwhile, the top aide to AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer (and Trilateral Commission member) Lane Kirkland is on "extended leave" in Italy.

Organizing for Slavery

Ginzberg has a clear Carter mandate to disrupt Italy's trade unions. Ginzberg's attention is centered on the largest and politically most powerful union, the Italian Metalworkers Federation (FLM), which he intends to provoke into actions against Andreotti's government. In January, immediately after Ginzberg's Rome meetings with then FLM head Georgio Benvenuto, wildcats erupted at the Fiat plants in Turin. The Fiat workers confessed that they had no reason to go out on the wildcat, since negotiations with the company were not to begin until February, but that orders had "come from the top" to go out on strike.

Ginzberg's January visit to Italy, according to the Feb. 2 and Feb. 23 issues of the national weekly *Il Mondo*, concentrated on leading intellectuals in the Italian Socialist Party (PSI). Under the explicit mandate of the U.S. Embassy, and escorted by U.S. Embassy cultural attaché Richard Arndt, Ginzberg met with the PSI's economic experts, Paolo Sylos Labini and Claudio Signorile, as well as with Benvenuto, until recently the

leader of the FLM and now a national secretary of the UIL confederation.

Now Benvenuto has obediently gone public with an endorsement of Ginzberg's specialty — slave labor. At his March 8 "Conference on Youth Employment" in Milan, Benvenuto praised "the revival of manual labor" for youth and called for an end to compulsory education, to solve the "problem of educational elitism." So drastic was Benvenuto's deschooling proposal that even the hatcher of the terrorist Red Brigades, brainwasher Francesco Alberoni, came to education's defense.

The next day in Florence, a national metalworkers' conference — the first to allow students to participate — took up youth manual labor as a solution to youth unemployment. The meeting turned immediately into a brainwashing confrontation between the 1,200 official FLM delegates and the "autonomous Maoist students." Up went the call for the "involvement of youth in the workplace" as a centerpiece in the industrial recon-

version bill, a bill presently pending in the parliament which would provide 2 trillion lire for state industries in new capital formation for trade. Insertion of a slave-labor clause would postpone the approval of the bill by another three months at least.

The FLM conference also officially endorsed slave labor over productive employment as the focus of trade union struggle, an argument stressed particularly by the Altanticist agents in the Italian Communist Party (PCI) centered around Giovanni Berlinguer (brother of the PCI's General Secretary) and Giorgio Amendola. Berlinguer announced that the PCI youth would now initiate its own push for slave labor. "We have fought for a long time for productive employment," he said, "now we will push for any kind of work."

And finally, the FLM sanctioned a general strike on March 18 aimed explicitly against the Andreotti government.

Senators Ask Gardner: 'Is Italy Going To Make It?'

At a series of hearings of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee March 7 on a series of Carter Administration appointments to the State Department, Senators Javits (R-NY) and Percy (R-III) heard testimony by Richard Gardner, named U.S. Ambassador to Italy.

In their questioning of Gardner and related comments, Javits and Percy assumed that Gardner was to be no mere Ambassador — a point widely acknowledged in Senate circles who observed yesterday that as one of Carter's earliest supporters, Gardner would only settle for an ambassadorial appointment if "there were a very, very important job to do."

Javits led off the discussion on Gardner's confirmation by commenting: "Mr. Gardner's appointment reminds me of one of the last great American Ambassadors to Italy, Mr. Zellerbach (of the Crown-Zellerbach family —ed.) during Italy's troubled postwar period (a period of extensive documented CIA covert operations in Italy —ed.). Here, in Mr. Gardner, we have someone of comparable stature and Italy is in comparable trouble." Javits bluntly inquired: "Is Italy going to make it?"

Gardner replied: "The major problem for Italy is the question of energy and oil imports. The U.S. must ensure there is greater energy conservation throughout Europe. Italy's other major problem is financial and I hope the IMF can take care of the situation."

Sen. Percy drew a parallel between Italy's financial crisis and that of New York City, observing: "Much as we have learned in New York City, when someone asks a banker for money, he should expect to receive friendly, but firm, advice from his banker. The advice for Italy should be of the following nature: the problem in Italy is inflation due to wage increases. There are no incentives for productivity. Don't you think wage increases must be slowed?"

"Yes, the problem has been that the trade unions have been reluctant to accept any substantial modifications in the cost of living agreement. We do have to slow inflation because labor costs have risen by 17.5 per year — wage inflation is the main problem. (Prime Minister) Andreotti has been courageously attacking this, but it's only a beginning — he must be more aggressive."

Sens. Percy and Javits praised Italian curbs on energy imports, prompting Gardner to exclaim, "Isn't it wonderful, the Italians pay \$2 a gallon for gas."

Javits concluded the questioning by remarking, "I hope you can come back in two to three months and report on whether Italy will make it."

A U.S. Labor Party spokesman presented testimony against Gardner's confirmation, citing Italian statements protesting Gardner's appointment and predicting he would play an on-the-spot coordinating role for Carter destabilizations of the Andreotti government. The committee had no questions, and adjourned.

D.C. Think Tank Explains Italy Scenario

The following are two interviews with staff members at the Center for Strategic and International Studies that were conducted by a Washington-based reporter and passed on to EIR. The first interview is with a high-ranking official at the Center.

Q: Do the scandals surrounding the Schmidt government in West Germany threaten to bring down his government?

A: Schmidt is not in trouble. The only thing that happened is that a girl friend of a nuclear scientist arranged meetings between the scientist and a terrorist, and the government surveilled him. None of the criticism is really hostile, it has not challenged the government's wiretapping procedure... These are not Schmidt's problems.

Q: What are his problems?

A: Number one, his setbacks with his coalition partners — the Free Democrats, and number two — the economic situation, the slowdown in the economy over the past two years...

Q: What about the charges that his party used government funds for financing their election campaigns?

A: There is nothing new about this. All three major parties have been implicated in this kind of thing, individuals in all three have been charged with this over the past two years.

Q: What about Carstens' call for new elections?

A: I didn't know about that, but it means nothing. Carstens will always call for new elections every chance he gets. If new elections were held now, he would probably win. His party lost by only half a percent last time, and now Schmidt is weaker.

Q: Will there be new elections.?

A: No, no. His call for elections means nothing right now.

Q: What about the situation in Italy? I thought the two countries were experiencing similar challenges?

A: No, no. Italy is different. There is no government crisis there now, but who knows...it may happen. But no one wants to bring it (the government—ed.) down right now. No one is ready, but probably by the late spring the PCI will be ready. ...You should talk to my assistant, our expert on Italy.

Interview with assistant.

Q: Will the truckers strike or Lockheed scandal that have emerged in the past week effect the governability of Italy under the present Andreotti government?

A: Ha! The country is ungovernable anyway... Look, this is very complicated. This is what is going on: The Italian Communists (PCI) have emerged as a force for law and

order. But the PCI has created a Frankenstein monster... its mass base will not go along with its support of the government. So, Italy is the new Argentina (a reference to Argentinian situation before the 1976 military coup—ed.). Before the Communist Party (CP) was the opposition, but now they are so strong that they are responsible for everything. As a result they are for law and order. For example, the Christian Democrats (DC) and the PCI have made a deal on the Lockheed investigations. Up until a few weeks ago *Unita* was calling for more and more investigations, now they have stopped. The CP today is in its most comfortable position. They are not in the cabinet, so they are not responsible for the government, but in fact they are responsible for everything. The Italian government can't do anything without the CP's support. But despite their comfort with this, the situation continues to go from bad to worse and the government with the CP's support enacts an austerity program. This situation encourages the far left to act against the government and make the trade unions restless, both breaking from the CP's policy of support for Andreotti.

Q: Why did your colleague suggest the late spring as the time when the Andreotti government may fall?

A: Probably because crises usually happen then, early enough so elections can be held before the August vacation period.

Q: Doesn't the country and the CP gain stability through trade deals with the Soviets?

A: No. They make money, but they don't gain stability. Togliattigrad was bad for Italy. The jobs went to Russian workers, not Italian. It is now immediately apparent that the Italian government will fall over the Lockheed scandal — itself a secondary issue — but will do so because of the primary issues.

Q: What are the primary issues?

A: The primary issue is bankruptcy. The country is bankrupt. It can't pay its debts, it can't provide social services. Unemployment is massive. There are kidnappings every day. Judges are shot in the streets in broad daylight, but it is unlikely that any of *these* issues will topple the government... Remember, a committee of the U.S. Senate produced a governmental crisis in Italy without any hard evidence at all. As usual, there is no hard evidence to the present charges. In fact, I believe that Gui and Rumor are innocent, but that will not matter....

Q: You said earlier that the Andreotti government is not pushing East-West trade any more than any previous government, in fact less so. But it is the Italians in the past six months that have been pushing the transfer ruble proposal more than anyone else in Western Europe. This shows that they are also more pan-European in orientation than previous governments.

A: No, no. The Soviets didn't author the idea of using the transfer ruble in Europe. The Italians proposed a negotiable credit instrument in the form of the transfer ruble — what I've heard called the "Euro-ruble" — when the Russians asked to buy more Italian goods. This is the transfer ruble, but the Russians rejected it.

AFL-CIO Plays "Dumb"

The following are excerpts from an interview with a staff member at the AFL-CIO International Affairs Department.

Q: How do you think the scandals around surveillance of a nuclear physicist and the improper use of funds by the West German SPD affect the viability of the Schmidt coalition government?

A: All I know is what I read in the newspaper. ... Why are you calling us anyway? We don't know anything about these things, we really don't.

Q: Aren't you sympathetic to the SPD?

A: Of course, but that doesn't mean anything. Why Mr. Meany met with Willy Brandt this morning, but that doesn't mean we support everything the SPD government does, or that they talked about it.

Q: Well, let me ask you about a similar situation in another country. I wanted to talk to you about...

A: (Interrupting) ... Italy!

Q: Why, yes, Italy ...

A: (Interrupting) We don't know anything about it... although I can understand why you would think we would.

TWO REPORTS FROM LYNDON H. LAROCHE IN EUROPE

Carter Subverts Western European Governments

WIESBADEN, BRD March 4 (NSIPS) — The past week's escalation of two hypocritical "destabilization" campaigns against the government of BRD Chancellor Helmut Schmidt rounds out a pattern of current Carter Administration efforts to bring down every pro-development government in Western Europe.

The first of these current attacks against Schmidt came in the original form of an attack against BRD Interior Minister Werner Maihofer, launched by the Feb. 28 issue of the magazine *Der Spiegel*. The second is the coordinated attack on Schmidt himself, charging use of state funds for political propaganda. If there were any reason to doubt the intentional connection between the two "destabilization" press tactics, the sponsors of the attacks themselves have connected the two issues as the purported front end of a "Watergate" campaign against Schmidt.

Although there are in fact some unresolved implications for the Dr. Klaus Traube affair, the overall quality of the attack on Schmidt is, as *Der Spiegel* publisher Rudolf Augstein would say, "ganz klar." At the very best, Schmidt's critics are exhibiting shameless hypocrisy.

In the Traube affair, Maihofer is accused of maintaining Bundesverfassungsschutz (BfV — West Germany's "FBI") surveillance of an Interatom physicist and suspected nuclear terrorists and related circles. If Maihofer's office in fact limited itself to such surveillance, which is all the *Der Spiegel* so far alleges, then Mr. Augstein and his associates are behaving as monstrous hypocrites.

In the second item, the use of government resources to aid a ruling party's political campaign, Schmidt's critics must certainly know that such practices have been common to virtually every government. One might say on this matter, "Who is morally qualified to cast the first stone?" — presuming that the charges have a basis.

Although the operations against the Callaghan, Andreotti and Schmidt governments are partially conducted through "dark networks," the bulk of the campaign is scarcely covert. The entire world's leading political forces, in every nation — including the Warsaw Pact nations — are openly divided between anti-Rockefeller and pro-Rockefeller forces. These international factional alignments cut across formal party lines in every nation.

For example, the Christian Democracy and Social-Democracy in the BRD itself, which are potentially split internally on supporting or opposing the policies of the Rockefeller's Carter administration, and the German Communist Party, whose "Euro-Communist" leadership is openly pro-Rockefeller on all the leading issues in the BRD today. *Der Spiegel* publisher Augstein is quite shamelessly supporting the Rockefeller faction, as are the U.S.-linked "environmentalist" forces within the SPD. Although the pro-Rockefeller factions do not yet identify themselves by wearing Mickey Mouse Club hats with built-in windmills, such identifications are superfluous. Symbolically, all of Schmidt's current critics are wearing windmills screwed into their skullcaps.

The political profile of the Carterites is well-established. a Brzezinski ally (or dupe) is

1. In opposition to fission power plants and fusion research;
2. A supporter of the Brzezinski-coordinated Eastern European dissidents campaign;
3. A supporter of labor-intensive "Arbeitsdienst" programs of employment for the unemployed;
4. A supporter of "solar energy" and "windmill" development efforts, together with demands for "energy conservation" at the expense of industry and maintenance of basic social services;

There are other elements in the profiles of included ele-