

Government crisis in Italy

Terrorism on the upsurge as Andreotti resigns

On Jan. 31, Italy's Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti formally submitted his resignation to President of the Republic Sandro Pertini. This marks the end of Andreotti's fourth government and the beginning of another period of political instability in Italy which the French daily *Le Monde* predicts will be characterized by an escalation of terrorist activity.

Pertini will probably entrust Andreotti with putting together another government. However, before Andreotti has even begun the process, spokesmen for the party that led the effort to collapse the government are trying to sabotage his chances. Italian Socialist Party Vice Secretary Claudio Signorile is predicting that all attempts by Andreotti to resolve the differences between his Christian Democrats and the Communist Party will fail, and that Pertini will then appoint as Prime Minister Ugo La Malfa, the head of the tiny Republican Party. The aging La Malfa's credentials as a right-wing British operative in Italy go back to the Mussolini era.

The depth of the rift between the two major parties, the Christian Democracy and the PCI, is shown by the response of the latter's parliamentary leader Di Giulio, who, when asked about the possibility of a La Malfa government, responded "Why not?" Andreotti, however, insists he is optimistic that some sort of arrangement between the two parties can be made.

Alessandrini murder: Indictment of Italian nongovernment

The collapse of the government is being accompanied by an increase in terrorism. On Monday, Jan. 29, Judge Emilio Alessandrini was assassinated by terrorists as he waited in his car at a red light in Milan. The modus operandi used by the killers is paralleled in military efficiency only by the "massacre of Via Fani" of March 1978, when former Prime Minister Aldo Moro was kidnapped and his five-man escort gunned down by Red Brigade terrorists. Alessandrini's killers knew his habitual morning route, caught him at an intersection where they knew he had to stop, pumped him with five or six machine-gun bullets, then fled, throwing a red smoke bomb to cover their getaway. Half an hour later, a caller to the daily *La Repubblica* claimed responsibility for the murder in the name of *Prima Linea* (Front Line), an offshoot of the Red Brigades.

The brutal murder of Judge Alessandrini brings into sharp focus the failures of the present Italian leadership. Alessandrini had worked closely with the Italian section of the European Labor Party to hunt down and bring to justice precisely those who retaliated by killing him in cold blood. He had investigated the role of sociologist Francesco Alberoni and the "Sociology"

Department of Trento University in creating the Red Brigades. He had looked into the curious coincidence that a high percentage of Italian kidnap victims were insured by Britain's Lloyds of London. He had most recently been involved in an investigation into the connections between Italian terrorism and the former head of the secret service, the Italian nobility-linked General Vito Miceli.

Marcella Andreoli, a journalist from the Socialist Party who had interviewed Alessandrini a few days before he was assassinated, revealed in the party's daily *Avanti* the immediate reason for Alessandrini's murder. Andreoli said that Alessandrini had obtained crucial evidence on the nature of the control of the Italian terrorist apparatus, and was on the point of proceeding against the individuals involved. Andreoli says at the end of the article that the timing of the murder indicates the existence of a spy within the Milan magistracy.

In the *Avanti* interview, Alessandrini had identified the aim of Italian terrorism: "It is not by chance that the actions of the Red Brigades have hit not so much rightists, but progressives. Their objective is self-evident: to arrive at a showdown in the shortest possible time, dividing in two that reformist buffer which in some measure guarantees the survival of this type of society."

Ultimately, the orders to eliminate Alessandrini originated in the same quarters that engineered the collapse of the present governing alliance: the oligarchists inside and outside of Italy, and their kept left and right wings.

End of the 'emergenza'

The end of January announcement by Prime Minister Andreotti of his resignation from office marked the end of the arrangement, formalized in March 1978, between the Communist Party and the Christian Democracy, whereby the two parties agreed to collaborate. The Communist Party would vote in Parliament for DC programs, in exchange for a Christian Democracy promise of prior consultation with the PCI and PCI approval in advance. The Christian Democratic leadership, primarily Aldo Moro and Andreotti, justified this arrangement to their membership by invoking a spirit of national unity in the face of the grave crisis facing the country. Thus it became known as the "emergency policy" — *politica di emergenza*.

Neither of the major objectives this arrangement was designed to accomplish has actually been reached. The economic plan, which was to be debated in Parliament this week, became one of the major areas of DC-PCI falling out. As a result, the country still has no coherent economic program and

is still at the mercy of stagnation, strikes, and health problems such as a mysterious epidemic that is killing dozens of children in the southern city of Naples.

The second major problem facing the country, the daily terrorist warfare, is still rampant and apparently unstoppable — at least by the means presently being brought to bear. Despite a wave of arrests of supposedly high-level Red Brigade members by Special Operations Chief General Dalla Chiesa, the killings, woundings and bombings continue. Guido Rossa, a shop steward in the Communist-dominated CGIL union, last week became the first explicitly PCI-linked terror victim. Rossa paid with his life for his testimony against a Red Brigade infiltrator in his factory.

Several months ago, however, Mauro Brutto, an investigative journalist for the Communist daily *L'Unità*, was killed in an extremely suspicious hit-and-run auto incident as he left the newspaper's Milan office. Brutto had planned to attend a European Labor Party forum on the international drug trade, but missed it to follow up leads in his investigation of the connections between international terrorism, British intelligence, and the Mafia.

Jacobinization of the PCI

Guido Rossa has become a national martyr; he was awarded the Italian Gold Metal posthumously by President Pertini. Events at his funeral demonstrate the frustration of the PCI membership, which is being manipulated to explode. Amid a tremendous outpouring of national outrage, shouts were heard of "Time for a change — PCI to power."

The issue of the PCI's place in the government is the apparent issue that precipitated the present "government crisis." Enraged by the treachery of their DC governing partners, who capitulated to U.S. pressure and pledged to keep the Communists out of the cabinet, PCI leaders such as Enrico Berlinguer have become vulnerable to the machinations of the British faction inside the party. Among these is Giancarlo Pajetta, who is leading the hard-line "class struggle" forces. Under pressure from these types, Berlinguer pulled his party out of the governing coalition. One of the major grievances he cited was Andreotti's decision to bring Italy into the EMS.

One of the most serious consequences of the hegemony of the Pajetta faction is the increased possibility of an Iran-style destabilization of Italy. This scenario was floated last year by the right wing DC leader Massimo De Carolis. It was resurrected this week by Aurelio Peccei, the head of the genocidal Club of Rome, who told a caller, "Yes, the problem of Iran is the industrialization. There is an immediate parallel between Iran and the Italian situation with what we did in the *Mezzogiorno*..." referencing the development of steel and bioprotein plants in southern Italy.

The situation was characterized by U.S. Labor Party Chairman Lyndon H. LaRouche, in a pamphlet aimed at the PCI leadership, as a coup d'etat within the party made possible by Berlinguer's lack of intellectual integrity. Characterizing the PCI's pluralist policy-spectrum as "a minestrone," LaRouche stated that "there is no consistent body of rigorous theoretical practice applicable to defining a PCI programmatic approach to any of the principal issues of current national or international life."

The result, says LaRouche, is that the PCI's constituents are politically "sleeping through your boring performances." He urges Berlinguer to break with the Pajetta faction: "How many industrial employment-places must be filled through high technology investment... for the next two years? How many nuclear-energy plants are required to meet the demand under conditions of expanding production? What should Italy's role be in the international division of labor for development of the developing sector? ... Has the point been reached to conduct surprise 'search and seal' deployments in the vicinity of Genoa, Milan, Rome, Florence and Bologna, to clean out nests of terrorists and terrorist safe-houses? Has not the time come to suspend from membership in the PCI all those who excuse terrorism as a 'sociological phenomenon'?"

The PCI must "rally the constituents to support a consistent drive for an EMS-centered policy of increasing production, investment, employment and exports," LaRouche declared. "That change, that leadership on crucial issues, will begin to awaken the inner potentials of those working people."

—Mary Sonnenblick