

## Closing in on Italy's Socialist godfathers

cribed organization in the Republic. Ireland's six-year old emergency law against terrorism has been used to arrest, prosecute and imprison many IRA members.

Irish authorities have already made two arrests in connection with the Mountbatten murder and suspect that as many as 10 to 15 people took part in the assassination operation. "The police have names and they know whom they are looking for," Ireland's Deputy Prime Minister George Colley told the press. In addition, detectives in Dublin are investigating the connections of an internationally known terrorist who was picked up in Ireland's largest drug bust the week before the Mountbatten murder. Irish security forces are also investigating the hypothesis that the recent wave of bank robberies, arson attempts and kidnappings in the Republic is the work of "hired gangs"—former IRA members and other mercenaries working for whoever pays and deploys them.

Nevertheless, the British and American press are conducting a smear campaign against the Lynch government, contending that it is "soft" on terrorism. Thatcher's lightning visit to Northern Ireland last week, during which she toured British Army installations in combat dress, was meant to dramatize the fact that Lynch had not cut short his vacation in Portugal to deal with the emergency.

Headlines such as "Maggie Shames the Irish" and "Ireland's Shame" appeared in the tabloids like the popular *Daily Express*, charging that Ireland has become an "open house" for worldwide terrorists. The more respectable *Financial Times* merely reported on Lynch's "political difficulties," saying that his popularity was sagging because of recent—British-created—economic problems such as the oil crisis and flagging industrial production. Lynch's Health Minister, one Charles Haughey, who was implicated in a gun-running scandal several years ago, is "poised to take power," reported the *Daily Telegraph*.

—Marla Minnicino

Italy's anti-terrorist investigators over the past week have zeroed in on the Italian Socialist Party as the central organizing nexus of terrorism for the peninsula. This development, which *Executive Intelligence Review* had predicted, has occurred months after the European Labor Party published the details of the Socialists' creation of terrorist gangs.

One of the Rome judges preparing the documentation needed for the extradition from France of terrorist leader Piperno, stated yesterday that Piperno's role was in fact one of mediating between the notorious Red Brigades gang (kidnappers last year of former premier Aldo Moro) and the Socialist Party. Piperno's French lawyer had complained a day earlier that the real aim of the Italian magistracy in seeking the extradition for trial of Piperno was to use him as a means of tracing terrorism back to the Socialist leadership, including party general secretary Bettino Craxi himself.

On that same day, the Roman judge Gallucci, who is charged with overall responsibility for the Piperno extradition, had issued a thinly veiled threat of legal action against one of the top national Socialist leaders—Giacomo Mancini. Gallucci announced that he was requesting of the national council of the magistracy that he be given the right to take legal action against all those who sought to protect Piperno from being returned to Italy to stand trial.

### Mancini panicked

Judge Gallucci's statement was a response to the provocation of Socialist leader Mancini, who had addressed a mass rally in the south to attack Gallucci and his fellow magistrates for their handling of the Piperno case. Mancini had appealed to the French Socialist Party of François Mitterrand to do everything in its political power to block the extradition in the French courts.

Mancini's panic is related to the fact that Piperno is known to be his particular protégé.

The Socialist leader had already thoroughly discredited himself days earlier when he had similarly criticized the Italian judiciary for its successful extradition of the notorious fascist mass murderer Freda, who was finally caught in Costa Rica after his successful escape from imprisonment in Italy months earlier. In that instance, too, Mancini had attacked the magistrates as "undemocratic" for successfully bringing the nation's most notorious mass murderer home for trial.

—Vivian Zoakos

## Italy now leads new drug, terrorist crackdown

A well-coordinated crackdown against international drug running has begun in Western Europe.

The stepup began Aug. 24 when the editor and general secretary of *Der Spiegel* magazine of West Germany, Rudolf Augstein, was arrested in Sardinia, Italy by customs officials who found 40 grams of marijuana hidden in his valise. Augstein's slick weekly magazine, first licensed by British occupation troops, is known as liberally sympathetic to the drug culture and the support networks around the Baader-Meinhof terrorists.

The newspaper of the Italian Communist Party, *L'Unità*, has joined the national antidrug effort, reporting the likely hypothesis that so-called soft drugs like marijuana are being deliberately dried up from the markets, and replaced with killer drugs such as heroin, cocaine, and LSD.

Florence, now flooded with a new variety of marijuana from Iran called "Khomeina," a tribute to the Ayatol-

lah who has declared himself in favor of opium smoking.

Another link between terrorism and dope running surfaced on Aug. 25 in the Irish Republic with the arrest by police of four individuals transporting 850 pounds of cannabis, valued at around \$2 million, Ireland's biggest bust to date. Among those arrested was one Jim McCann, who escaped from a Belfast jail in 1971, and who has been wanted in Canada, France, and West Germany for a multitude of crimes including possession of explosives.

West German police had been looking for McCann, nicknamed "The Fox," for the bombing of army personnel stations in conjunction with the Baader-Meinhof gang.

His arrest strengthens suspicions of Irish police that McCann is involved in an international drug-running operation to finance the weapons purchases of the "Provo" terrorist wing of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), a case which could bring the internationally organized drugs-terrorism machine further into the open.

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## Italian Communists blast Dope, Inc.

*The Italian Communist Party has joined the fight against drugs in Italy, citing the U.S. Labor Party's Dope, Inc., Britain's Opium War Against the U.S., in a Sept. 5 feature in L'Unità. Entitled "Are Free Drugs More Easily Fought?" by Giuseppe de Luca, the article is excerpted here.*

The recent death by heroin of youth has made the "drug question" a key issue and reopened the discussion on the strategies which national and international government entities have developed to deal with a problem that involves the entirety of civil society. Now the Liberal Health Minister Altissimo announces a project for the "controlled distribution of drugs," seemingly a semi-legalization of drugs.

... It is possible to differentiate three models generally adopted in Italy and abroad for dealing with the problem.

The first model is incarceration. ... The second model is the health model ... (using) methods for detoxification ... or substitution (of one drug for another): ... Finally, the third model for intervention is that which goes under the name of "psychosocial therapy of dependence": the addict is a weak individual to be protected ... to be maintained in a permanent state of dependence. ...

To rechannel the drug problem into a historical-social dimension would mean above all making a distinction between drugs and addicts. Drugs are a product, the addict is a person. To the extent that drugs obey economic laws, they generate profit; they are produced for this reason, and would not have otherwise entered the commercial markets. And the profits are huge: it is calculated in fact, that in the United States the income of the large centers of trafficking realize each year \$50 billion, and internationally nearly \$200 billion. Other projections, which must be viewed with caution, estimate that, if the American government does not block the initiative to liberalize and decriminalize drugs, beginning with marijuana, annual income would reach \$300 billion—a figure which is equivalent to double the budget of the Italian government. (Source: *Dope, Inc., Britain's Opium War Against the U.S.*)

If these are the economic parameters of the problem, then it is legitimate to ask who profits from mass drug sales. Certainly not the youth, nor the population at large, nor workers....

... Drugs, as drugs, threaten the health of populations, degrade the quality of life. Obviously, as a product, it is in its interests to present itself candidly as innocuous, even advantageous. But here too let us ask: who is interested in changing people's ideas on the "drug product?" Only those who, through the spread of drugs on a vast scale, pursue a serious objective of social control over the new generation.

... From this point of view any program to legalize drugs produces incalculable damage....