

## Report from Italy by Paolo Serri

### 'Moro Three'

*Following further investigations into the assassination of Aldo Moro, Judge Priore warns against a reactivation of Italian terrorism.*

Rome investigative Judge Rosario Priore concluded during the week of Aug. 13 a year-long investigation into the kidnapping and murder of Christian Democrat (DC) statesman Aldo Moro, indicting 182 Red Brigade terrorists and warning of the threat of a reactivation of terrorism.

Together with his colleague Ferdinando Imposimato, Judge Priore conducted this investigation, called "Moro Three," as the third separate investigation around the murder of the former prime minister. The two judges provoked an international earthquake in May 1983 when they wanted to interrogate former U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger on his reported threats against Moro. Imposimato has come to the well-documented conclusion that right and left terrorism, organized crime, and intelligence services from the East and West represent interconnected networks working for the destabilization of the West.

Now, Judge Priore is warning that "red terrorism is not finished. It would be a mistake to consider this phenomenon completely defeated. And one would delude himself in thinking that subversion has concluded its bloody cycle. There are instead clear and troublesome symptoms which indicate a reorganization of the 'armed party,' aiming at a full-scale reactivation. We cannot afford to let ourselves be caught unprepared again."

Many of the indicted terrorists are already in jail for this and other crimes; however, there are still too many loose ends: at least "ten Brigadists with a

great deal of experience are still on the run and still active." Furthermore, around 100 terrorists are still wanted, though it is not known whether they are still active.

"Finally one must take into account"—continued Priore—"the 150 individuals who carried out a strategic retreat abroad, in particular, to France and especially to Paris, where they can count on many trusted friends, on protection at different levels, and on the possibility for movement and contacts; also these are 'active' and it would be a gross mistake to consider them retired guerrillas."

The "French Connection" of terrorism has been repeatedly exposed by Italian investigators, in particular in the period since President Mitterrand was inaugurated, when several key leftist "ideologues," such as Régis Debray, were placed in high level positions. But Priore's indictment papers reveal some original discoveries around this "Connection."

For example, in the period December 1981-January 1982, the Red Brigade "Roman column," under the direction of "sociology professor" Giovanni Senzani had planned two spectacular actions, only one of which was previously known: the assault with anti-aircraft missiles on the National Council meeting of the Christian Democracy in Rome, and the bombing with the same type of rockets of the office of then justice minister, DC'er Clelio Darida. The land-to-air 61 mm. rockets planned for the attacks were of the same type found later in the Red

Brigade safehouse in Rome.

Only the arrests of Senzani and numerous other Brigadists avoided a major bloodbath then, which could have decimated the leadership of the ruling Christian Democracy.

Senzani maintained an "external" connection, and this turned out to be the Frenchman Jean Louis Baudet, nicknamed "Paul," a person who was at the center of a major scandal in France at the beginning of this year. At the time of his arrest in Paris for illegal arms possession and terrorist connections, it emerged that he enjoyed some still unexplained high-level contacts in the French government. As reported by the Italian daily *Corriere della Sera* on Aug. 15, Judge Priore interrogated Baudet several times, and discovered that Baudet was a weapons expert, who underwent a training session with Lebanese guerrillas, and helped Senzani in planning the two intended massacres.

Despite all the Italian warnings and extradition requests, the French authorities have stalled, partly on the basis of "political asylum," partly because of obvious complicity. Emphatically, Judge Priore stressed that the so-called "external" or "foreign column" of the Red Brigades is still the most dangerous: "... The most capable of drawing a lesson from past experiences and elaborating new attack plans. The 'long silence' of these last months . . . is seen as only a 'tactical moment,' " *Corriere* quotes the Rome judge.

The "arsenal" of the Red Brigades is still almost intact and "impressive," and some laws currently being discussed in the Italian Parliament threaten to release some hundreds of "repented" terrorists, among them potential active operatives—an explosive blend for new, bloody terrorist fireworks.