

Report from Rome by Antonio Gaspari

An exposure and a cover-up

The group 'Comunione e Liberazione' reveals a freemasonic plot to grab economic power in Italy.

Many feathers have been ruffled by a series of exposé articles printed in the weekly *Il Sabato* of the Catholic group, *Comunione e Liberazione* (CL), and now collected in a volume whose title, translated, is *1974-1987: Thirteen Years of Our History*. Authors Socci and Fontolan charge that a conspiracy by freemasonic financial circles, together with the Communist Party, has determined Italy's fate for the last 40 years. Most seriously, they say that this project succeeded due to the secularization and corruption of the Catholic/Christian principles which had been at the base of the Christian Democracy.

The analysis has much to speak for it. Indeed, the Christian Democracy has for 25 years disowned every major battle in defense of life and the family, not to mention the fight for the anti-malthusian and anti-usurious economic policies required for Italy's development. The party took a wishy-washy position on all the referenda, including the recent one on nuclear energy.

Socci and Fontolan start with the defeat of the divorce referendum in 1974 to score what they call the "new power." They describe the launching of the now-powerful *Il Mondo* (in 1949) and *L'Espresso* (1955) as limited-run weeklies, put out by a group of young liberals including the future heads of the Bank of Italy and the Confederation of Industry, and Eugenio Scalfari, later a founder of the Radical Party.

"The troops of this patrol were of fascist and anti-fascist origin, but they had in common old-style anti-clerical

secularism," report Socci and Fontolan. The "patrol made a pact with high finance in search of a political and cultural dimension which would go beyond the by-now narrow confines of the Liberal Party and Benedetto Croce," the old masonic ruling party, discredited by its impotence against Mussolini.

The two authors then trace the takeover of Italy by secular high finance. Alberto Beneduce (executive board member of the Grand Orient Lodge of Italy), as president of the state holding company IRI, put Raffaele Mattioli in charge of Banca Commerciale, the branchpoint for links to U.S. and European high finance. It is in Banca Commerciale's "study center" that such postwar power brokers as Republican Party leader La Malfa, Senator Merzagora, Communist Party Politburo member Amendola, Liberal Party head Malagodi, Fiat manager Valiani, Bank of Italy governor Carli, and investment banker Cuccia were groomed. Enrico Cuccia married Beneduce's daughter, Miss "Ideasocialista," and became the manager of Mediobanca, the crossroads of power from 1946 to the present.

Socci and Fontolan report figures to give an idea of the power of freemasonic finance: "Today Fiat has a profit of 2.5 trillion liras (1986 figures). It went from a turnover of 2.4 trillion in 1974 to 34 trillion in 1986. On the stock market, the establishment of Agnelli, Ferruzzi, De Benedetti, Pirelli, and Orlando controls about 60% of the quoted firms; 21% is state holdings, then there is the Com-

munist empire of the League of Cooperatives which has reached a turnover of 26 trillion liras, and the rest are crumbs. This dominion goes in tandem with the excessive power of the usual well-knowns of the media: the *big five* control the major Italian dailies and weeklies with the biggest ad agencies."

The authors detail how the secular-masonic alliance with the Italian Communist Party (PCI) was effected, observing that "Gramsci's PCI always was more secular-masonic than Marxist," and quoting Banca Commerciale manager Mattioli's theory of "the alliance between the big bourgeoisie and the working class."

But Socci and Fontolan run into trouble when they identify Christian Democrat Giulio Andreotti as the opponent of the corruption of the basic principles of the Catholic movement. Perhaps the two CL members are unaware that Andreotti was himself part of a *Synarchist Cooperativist Party* which later gave birth to Franco Rodano's "Catho-Communists"!

Even more serious is their error regarding the late Enrico Mattei, whom they treat as part of Mattioli's plan to secularize the Christian Democracy. As if they did not know that Mattei, founder of the State Hydrocarbons Agency, was regarded as the devil incarnate by the big secular-masonic financiers, because he tried, alone among the major industrialists, to implement the anti-colonial concept of development and national sovereignty later expressed in Paul VI's encyclical, *Populorum Progressio*.

Strange too, that Bettino Craxi's Socialist Party, a bastion of anti-life and anti-family policies, is never mentioned.

We hope these errors result from a lack of in-depth knowledge in certain areas, lest a part of the truth serve only to cover up even dirtier political games.