

ITALIAN EXPERTS INSIST

## A Foreign Intelligence Service Killed Aldo Moro

by Claudio Celani

In the small town of Oriolo Romano, on the outskirts of Rome, a conference took place on May 9, entitled “The Moro Case Among Doubts and Truth, 28 Years Later.” In the words of one of the speakers, the conference was aimed at keeping alive the memory of the “gravest terrorist act in Italian post-war history,” and preventing “the game from being called off” on the fight for the truth about the Moro case. To this purpose, the provincial government of Viterbo is sponsoring the establishment of a public library to house the archive of Sen. Sergio Flamigni, a resident of Oriolo Romano, and the top expert on the Moro case.

Flamigni, now 83, was a member of the Italian Parliament from 1968 to 1987, and a member of the secretariat of the Italian Communist Party under Enrico Berlinguer, Prime Minister Aldo Moro’s partner in the 1976-78 National Solidarity policy. A member of the Parliament Investigating Committees on the Moro case and on the secret P2 Freemasonic Lodge, Flamigni has published seven books, which have set the standard on these two issues. The newly launched Flamigni Archive will hold two public events every year, on March 16 and May 9, the dates, respectively, of the kidnapping and the assassination of Aldo Moro by the so-called Red Brigades terrorists.

This year, the Archive was inaugurated on March 16, with a photographic exhibit, and on May 9, with a conference featuring the most prominent experts on the Moro case, and on terrorism in general. In addition to Flamigni, speakers included State Prosecutor Rosario Priore, who has worked on the Moro case and on other famous cases such as the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul II, and Prof. Giuseppe De Lutiis, an author and expert on the history of terrorism and

secret services in Italy. Two other prestigious speakers were invited, but excused themselves for reasons related to the ongoing parliamentary election of the new Italian State President: former Sen. Giovanni Pellegrino, who recently chaired a Parliamentary investigating committee on terrorism; and Pellegrino’s collaborator and author, Giovanni Fasanella.

Intervening from the audience were two prominent personalities: former Senator and Adm. Falco Accame (ret.), who chairs the association of police victims of terrorism, and movie director Giuseppe Ferrara, who produced a well-known film, “Il caso Moro,” on the Moro assassination, with Gian Maria Volontè.

The conference took place in a crowded room in the historic Palazzo Altieri, and was opened by the chairman of the Viterbo provincial government, Alessandro Mazzoli, and by the Oriolo Romano mayor, Italo Carones. All speakers began with the hard fact that none of the five judiciary investigations and trials concerning the Moro case has succeeded in establishing the truth. Only one thing is sure: The version of the murder supplied by the Red Brigades terrorists is false.

### 28 Years Later, No Closer to Truth

It is still not known today who physically killed Moro, where Moro was kept prisoner, and, most important, who was giving orders to the Red Brigades. However, enough evidence has come to light to indicate that several foreign intelligence services were at work, and in a concerted action steered the Moro operation to its conclusion: to eliminate the Christian Democratic leader and stop his “national solidarity” policy.

On March 16, 1978, the day he was kidnapped, Christian Democratic chairman Moro was heading to the Parliament,



*Twenty-eight years later, the truth is still not known about who kidnapped and murdered Aldo Moro, former Italian Prime Minister and leader of the Christian Democrats. The evidence points to foreign intelligence agencies, which directed the alleged perpetrators, the terrorist Red Brigades, to prevent Moro from forming a grand coalition government with the Italian Communist Party.*

where the government, of which he was the main architect, was to be voted up. For the first time in Italian politics, a cabinet led by Moro's party colleague, Giulio Andreotti, was formed, with the external support of the Italian Communist Party (PCI). Moro's aim was to associate the PCI with government responsibilities, to test its loyalty both to the democratic system and to Italy's membership in the Western Alliance. This was necessary, because the PCI, in the last general elections, had won 33% of the votes, and was only two points behind the Christian Democracy; therefore, a solution had to be found in case the PCI should win the next election, and claim on constitutional grounds, to take over the government.

State Prosecutor Priore addressed this issue, recalling that because of the East-West division of the world, and the conflict between NATO and the Warsaw Pact, Western capitals looked with "horror" at the possibility that a communist Minister of Defense could eventually deliver military secrets to Moscow.

The participation of the PCI in the Italian government was enough of a *casus belli*, he said, to justify a reaction not only from Western intelligence, but also from Moscow, because PCI leader Enrico Berlinguer had openly criticized Soviet

Communism and had launched his own brand of democratic communism—"euro-communism"—together with Spanish Communist Party leader Santiago Carrillo and French Communist Party leader George Marchais.

Another *casus belli* for the Moro assassination originated during Moro's imprisonment: the fact that Moro, under interrogation by the "Red Brigades," revealed information and delivered documents pertaining to the existence of the secret NATO "Stay Behind" fascist network dominating the Gladio group. Evidence collected by investigators over the years and, more recently by Senator Pellegrino's committee, indicates that Western and Soviet intelligence networks acted in concert to steer the Red Brigades terrorists to execute Aldo Moro.

Senator Flamigni focussed, in particular, on the role of the Israeli secret service, the Mossad. Flamigni reported that, "on the basis of particular information, Pellegrino has pushed the proposition that in a certain phase of [Moro's] kidnapping, a secret service from an allied country intervened in the case, taking on itself the double task of rescuing the tapes [of Moro's interrogations] and freeing the prisoner. 'But eventually, it accomplished only the first task and let Moro be killed in order to settle an old account,' " Flamigni quotes Pellegrino.

In 2005, Pellegrino revealed that the allied secret service which entered the game was the Mossad. The source for this revelation, Pellegrino said, is Francesco Cossiga, the former State President who, in 1978, was Interior Minister and coordinator of the police and intelligence efforts to find and rescue Moro.

Witness accounts supply evidence to corroborate this report: On the morning of May 9, Flamigni said, in the presence of Socialist parliamentarian Claudio Signorile, Cossiga reacted to the news that Moro's corpse had been found, by turning pale and murmuring: "They had promised me that they would save him." Signorile adds that Cossiga had kept him in his office in the expectation of a "good news," that is, the liberation of Moro.

Also, Rome police chief Emanuele De Francesco, a few days earlier, "had said that, according to his information, Moro would be released alive on Tuesday," May 9, according to records of a recent trial related to the Moro case. "That the Mossad had played a role in the case," Flamigni stated, "had already emerged out of the investigations made, on behalf of the Parliament Committee, by police officer Massimo Gi-raudo, who, from an old object found in Via Gradoli [one of the Red Brigades hideouts], a car key belonging to a Jewish [intelligence agent], and out of old classified documents in the Carabinieri and SISMI [military intelligence] archives, had traced back to the area of the Jewish Ghetto in Rome, and an investigation made by SISMI on Palazzo Caetani."

### **The Role of Palazzo Caetani**

Flamigni refers to an investigation done by SISMI in 1978, during the Moro kidnapping, of people living on the

same street, Via Caetani, where Moro's corpse was delivered inside the trunk of a red Renault. SISMI had apparently received a clue, which focussed on one member of the aristocratic Caetani family, a musician named Igor Markevich, who had married one of the two Caetani princesses, Topazia. Markevich had a background which led them to suspect that he might be a double or a triple agent: for the British MI6, the KGB, and the Mossad.

More important than Markevich, however, was another figure: Hubert Howard, a British Psychological War Branch officer in World War II, who had married the other Caetani sister, Lelia. Howard is among the founders of the Italian proto-fascist environmentalist movement and belongs to one of the oldest British aristocratic families. He was part of the elite of the Anglo-American military and intelligence establishment, which oversaw political and cultural life in Italy after World War II, including the recycling of old fascists into police and intelligence structures. However, the results of the 1978 SISMI investigation on Palazzo Caetani are not known; there is no written report on that investigation, which indicates that the report has been destroyed.

The Italian LaRouche movement had pointed to the Palazzo Caetani as early as September 1978, in a pamphlet titled "Chi ha ucciso Aldo Moro?" (Who Killed Aldo Moro?), published by the European Labor Party. Unaware of the SISMI investigation, the Labor Party had received information, during work on the dossier, that Moro's prison could be found in the Palazzo Caetani. The same source had indicated the name of Johannes Schwarzenberg, an Austrian aristocrat who lived in that palace and who, in his capacity as ambassador to the Sovereign Order of Malta, enjoyed diplomatic immunity and the ability to protect a terrorist hideout from police intrusion.

Another person named in the Labor Party dossier, who eventually emerged as very close to Hubert Howard, was Count Francesco Malfatti di Montetretto, director general of the Italian Foreign Ministry. This individual was described as an intimate of the Caetani family, and especially of Howard, in a 2001 book authored by Giovanni Fasanella and Giovanni Rocca. Fasanella is a collaborator of Senator Pellegrino, with whom he wrote two books.

### Italy's Mideast Policy Key

At the May 9 conference, State Prosecutor Priore stated that although the judicial truth in the Moro case has never been determined, we should nevertheless develop an historical-political judgment. "What strikes me the most," Priore said, "when I turn back to those events, is those very heavy words pronounced by Renato Curcio, one of the founders of the Red Brigades, together with Alberto Franceschini. He insists that there has been a pact, a disgraced pact between the terrorists and institutions which know how certain crimes and terrorist attacks took place, but do not speak about it."

"What took place in 1978," Priore said, "perhaps occurred because of what we have always called the '*conventio ad excludendum*,' that is, the exclusion of the Italian Communist

Party" from the government. "I must, however, stress that today's May 9 is a date as relevant as well for our history, as today we will probably see elected as State President a man who has for decades been a member of the Italian Communist Party." Priore was referring to Giorgio Napolitano, an old PCI leader and now a member of the PCI successor party, DS, who has just been elected President of Italy.

As for the secrets that Moro might have revealed to the Red Brigades, Priore said, "I do not think that Moro possessed state secrets." Moro did not even know exactly what "Stay Behind" was, but he knew where the documents were, and in effect, documents disappeared both from Moro's office and from a safe in the Ministry of Defense, Priore said. But Moro, as a former Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, and through his close connections to Colonel Giovannone, the head of the Italian intelligence in the Middle East, knew a lot of things concerning, for instance, to which Palestinian faction money from Washington went; or what was being prepared in Egypt where, in that period, Anwar Sadat was beginning a strategic about-face, breaking his alliance with the Soviet Union and allowing the United States to build a strategically key base in Egypt.

Moro "was the continuer of the Italian pro-Arab policy, which he did not invent; it is a tradition inaugurated by Francesco Crispi" in 1887. Pursuing the pro-Arab cause, "Moro put himself necessarily on a collision course with Israel, and this is a fundamental issue. Between Italy and Israel," Priore said, "there has always been a 'noble duel,' because each country tried to present itself to Washington as the best ally of the United States in the Mediterranean. Therefore, they pulled every sort of trick against each other. If I make a list of all the Israeli attempts to implement terrorist attacks on our territory, which we have discovered, you would be shocked."

Then, there is another player, which one of the Red Brigades leader, Giovanni Senzani, calls "the third player," and this is France. One of the papers found in Senzani's house, was a 1981 report on a meeting of all "revolutionary" forces in the world, in which Senzani writes that "the last three attacks" must be attributed to this "third player." These three last attacks are indicated as TS (Trieste), BO (Bologna), and "Synagogue." "Therefore, let us take into account that there are not only the two big players, the United States and the Soviet Union, but there is also a third player, and I say, as Senator Flamigni insisted, that there is for sure a fourth player, which is Israel. Therefore I invite everyone who wants to deal with this matter to look at the deep history of nations, their national interests, the guidelines that sometimes last much longer than governments. We have seen how the Soviet Union has continued the foreign policy of Czarist Russia, and how Churchill's England has continued in the same policy with Labour governments after World War II."

Speaking next, Professor De Lutiis agreed that there has been a "convergence of interests" of several powers in the decision to kill Moro. "I believe that 99% of the Red Brigades members were in good faith," De Lutiis said, "But I still

hypothesize that at the top, there were persons in contact with other circles.”

As one example, De Lutiis mentioned statements delivered by Carabinieri General Bozzo, who was a close collaborator of Red Brigades hunter, Gen. Carlo Alberto Dalla Chiesa, in 1977, and again, after the Moro assassination. “Bozzo reported that Dalla Chiesa gave him a working hypothesis, based on the fact that in earlier minor terrorist acts in Savona 1974 and 1975, connections had emerged among right-wing circles, freemasonic networks, organized crime, and intelligence structures. Dalla Chiesa told Bozzo that he was reminded of a similar structure formed during the war, with “Stay Behind” functions, called “Organizzazione Franchi.” The leader of this group was a young aristocratic officer, Edgardo Sogno, who had fought in the Spanish Civil War against the Republicans, and then later on turned “anti-fascist” in the liberation war in Italy.

In 1973, a conspiracy for a *coup d'état* involving Sogno was discovered in Turin, and Sogno was arrested and investigated. Eventually, he was acquitted. In his autobiography, published post-mortem in 2001, Sogno revealed that he indeed had plotted a serious *coup d'état*. Reading that biography, first-generation Red Brigades leader Alberto Franceschini recognized that Sogno had penetrated to the very top of the Red Brigades with his agent. Franceschini is convinced that the second-generation leadership of the Red Brigades, the one that planned and performed the Moro operation, was steered by the Sogno group. Sogno had key connections to Washington and to NATO headquarters, from the time of his close association with NATO Secretary General Manlio Brosio.

The Sogno-steered Red Brigades leadership was centered on a language school in Paris called Hyperion. “We do not know yet what Hyperion really was,” De Lutiis said. Some sources have characterized Hyperion as a “CIA” center, others as a crossroad of several intelligence networks.

## A Pattern of Assassinations

Moro’s assassination is part of an international pattern of major assassinations that started in 1962, De Lutiis said. Today we know with certainty that the death of Italian industrialist Enrico Mattei, in October 1962, was an assassination. Thanks to the 1992 investigation, using advanced forensic techniques, prosecutors were able to find traces of explosives on Mattei’s ring. “Maybe that crime had international string-pullers; maybe it was the Seven Sisters [the major oil compa-



EIRNS/Claudio Celani

*The conference in Oriolo Romano on “The Moro Case Among Doubts and Truth, 28 Years Later.” Left to right: chairman of the Viterbo provincial government, Alessandro Mazzoli; Rosario Priore; Mayor of Oriolo, Italo Carones; Sergio Flamigni; and Prof. Giuseppe De Lutiis. Flamigni has donated his vast files on the Moro case to a public archive, to keep the evidence intact and the case open, until the murder is fully solved.*

nies]. In any case, it is high-level forces which were able to prevent justice from being done.”

Mattei was the first in a long list, which includes John F. Kennedy, his brother Robert, Martin Luther King, Olof Palme, Anwar Sadat, and Patrice Lumumba, De Lutiis said. “All these persons had reached a level of government or of influence that could have shifted the policy of major countries in the direction of national autonomy and favoring the rights of poorer countries,” De Lutiis said.

The conference then heard contributions from two distinguished members of the audience: movie director Giuseppe Ferrara and Adm. Falco Accame (ret.). Ferrara delivered a piece of evidence to the Flamigni Archive, a videotaped interview with witnesses in Via Fani, the street where the ambush against Moro’s car occurred.

Accame raised the issue of what he calls the “Gladio Abroad” network, that is, a parallel network to the official NATO “Stay Behind” networks, which was composed of professional military personnel who were deployed behind “enemy” lines abroad, that is, Soviet or Soviet-allied countries. One member of such a network, Antonino Arconte, claims that his superiors knew about the Moro kidnapping before it occurred. Accame, who has recently addressed this issue in an interview with *EIR* (Nov. 4, 2005) insists that Arconte’s reports must be investigated in order to establish whether they are true and, in case they are not, to establish who has deployed Arconte and why.

In private discussions after the conference, this author was informed that the U.S. Ambassador to Italy during the Moro kidnapping, Richard Gardner, in his 2004 autobiography had attacked Lyndon LaRouche.